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Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits: review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

During the reporting period, the strong economic performance of the least developed countries continued, with most of them, except those in the Pacific, having met or on track to achieving the growth and investment targets of the Brussels Programme by 2010.

Progress made in regard to human development targets has been noticeable in health and education but less so in improved access to water and sanitation. Much less progress than previously thought has been made in respect of gender parity in education and no progress has been made in relation to maternal mortality. Furthermore, the progress made on many social indicators does not seem sustainable. In one half of the least developed countries for which trend data are available, almost 50 per cent of population continues to live in extreme poverty. Malnutrition seems also to be worsening, particularly among children and women.

The global food crisis can exacerbate malnutrition and jeopardize international efforts to achieve the overarching objective of the Brussels Programme — to halve the proportion of people living in extreme poverty and hunger in the least developed countries by 2010 — unless both the demand for and supply of basic food items are addressed urgently and comprehensively.

* A/63/50.
** E/2008/1.

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I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 62/203 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/31, in which the Secretary-General was requested to submit an annual analytical and results-oriented progress report on the further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, adopted at the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries in Brussels in May 2000 (hereinafter referred to as the Brussels Programme).

2. The report assesses both the progress made towards achieving the international goals and targets contained in the Brussels Programme, and the commitments of the least developed countries and their development partners in seven, interlinked areas, namely: (a) fostering a people-centred policy framework; (b) good governance at the national and international levels; (c) building human and institutional capacities; (d) building productive capacities to make globalization work for the least developed countries; (e) enhancing the role of trade in development; (f) reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment; and (g) mobilizing financial resources.

3. As in the past, the report follows the structure of the Programme of Action and is accompanied by a statistical annex providing country data. All sources are indicated at the bottom of each table. Cape Verde, which appears among the countries listed in the tables, has since graduated from the list of least developed countries. For the purposes of the analysis, all of the least developed countries are grouped in three regional subgroups: African, Asian and Pacific. Haiti is the only least developed country in the Latin American and Caribbean regional subgroup.

II. Implementation of the Programme of Action

Commitment 1
Fostering a people-centred policy framework

4. The Brussels Programme underscores that accelerated, sustained and inclusive growth is central to poverty reduction, sustainable development and the beneficial integration of the least developed countries in the world economy. To achieve the objectives of halving the proportion of people living in extreme poverty and suffering from hunger by 2015, the Programme set the targets of a growth rate in gross domestic product (GDP) of at least 7 per cent per annum and an increase in the ratio of investment to GDP to 25 per cent per annum by 2010.

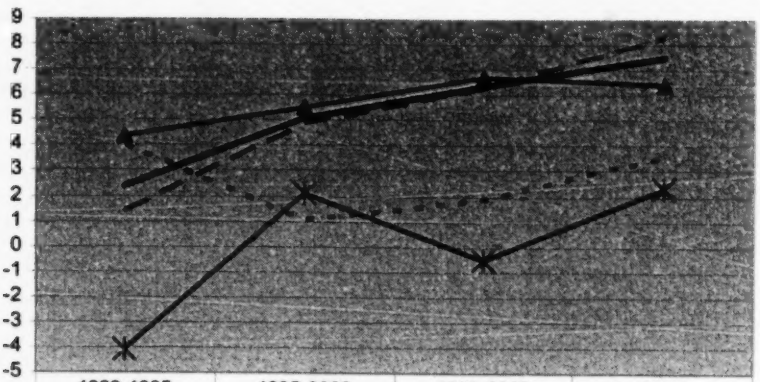
5. In 2006, 29 of the least developed countries met or were on track to meeting the 7 per cent growth target by 2010. This number was down from 31 in 2005 but up from 24 during the period from 2000 to 2005. The number of countries experiencing weak or negative growth declined steadily, from 16 during the period from 2000 to 2005 to 11 in 2006.

6. African oil exporters[1] achieved and African non-oil exporters were only 0.6 per cent below the growth target in 2006, a performance close to that of the

[1] The African oil-exporting least developed countries, as identified by the World Trade Organization, are Angola, Chad, Equatorial Guinea and the Sudan.

Asian least developed countries. Growth in the Pacific improved substantially but was still only one half of the target rate (see fig. 1).

Figure 1
Average annual rate of growth of gross domestic product in the least developed countries, 1990-2006
(Percentage)



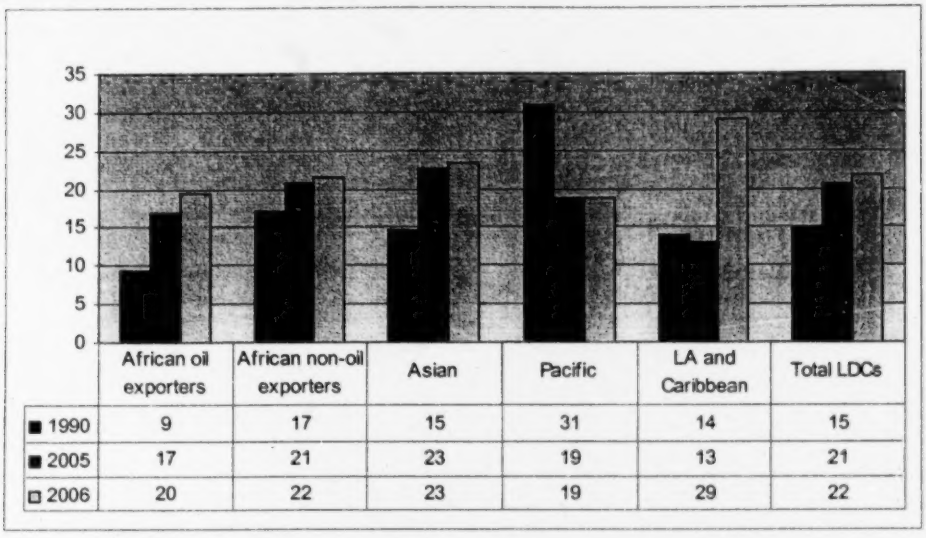
	1990-1995	1995-2000	2000-2005	2006
African	1.41	4.91	6.27	8.29
Asian	4.41	5.53	6.70	6.42
Pacific	4.01	1.07	1.88	3.61
LA and Caribbean	-4.05	2.10	-0.55	2.31
Total LDCs	2.38	5.09	6.36	7.52

7. However, analysis of the annual rate of growth in GDP per capita shows that rapid population growth in the non-oil exporting African least developed countries wiped out one half of their economic gains, whereas the African oil-exporting least developed countries and the Asian least developed countries with lower rates of population growth were able to benefit from that. The combination of a rapidly growing population and slow economic growth resulted in little change to the per capita income in the least developed countries in the Pacific.

8. All regions, except the Pacific, were on track to achieving the 25 per cent target for the ratio of investment to GDP (see fig. 2). Rates among the African oil exporters, well below the target in 1990, were back on track. Investment in the African non-oil exporting least developed countries was also back on track but increasing at a slower rate. For the least developed countries in the Pacific, investment was below the target.

9. In 2006, 30 of the least developed countries met or were close to the 25 per cent target, up from 29 in 2005 and 18 in 2000. The number of the least developed countries with low rates decreased steadily, from 15 in 2000 to 6 in 2006.

Figure 2
Gross fixed capital formation in the least developed countries as a percentage of gross domestic product in 1990, 2005 and 2006



	African oil exporters	African non-oil exporters	Asian	Pacific	LA and Caribbean	Total LDCs
■ 1990	9	17	15	31	14	15
■ 2005	17	21	23	19	13	21
□ 2006	20	22	23	19	29	22

10. Adjusted for purchasing power parity (PPP), international poverty estimates by the World Bank show that in 9 of the 17 least developed countries for which data are available, 50 per cent of the population lives on less than a $1 (PPP) per day. Three of the least developed countries have medium (30-49 per cent) poverty rates and 5 least developed countries showed low (less than 30 per cent) poverty rates. However, the estimates of governments seem to be more pessimistic: using their own national poverty lines, 11 out of the 22 least developed countries for which data are available have poverty rates of over 50 per cent; however, another 10 have mid-range rates of poverty (30-49 per cent) and one a low rate (less than 30 per cent).

11. Malnutrition in the least developed countries seems to be increasing. The most recent data on child malnutrition compiled by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) show a more positive picture than earlier data on the undernourished population collected by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). For the period from 2000 to 2006, UNICEF reports a high (over 45 per cent) rate of undernourished in 3 of the 46 least developed countries for which data are unavailable, whereas for the period from 2002 to 2004, FAO reported a high rate of undernourishment in 8 of the 43 least developed countries for which data are available. Estimates of trends by UNICEF, however, are markedly more negative than those of FAO: according to UNICEF, 27 of the least developed countries show no progress, compared to the 10 estimated by FAO.

12. Soaring food prices[2] could further exacerbate malnutrition in the least developed countries, net food-importing countries since the 1990s. In 2007, the total

[2] According to FAO, since 2006, the average world price of rice has increased by 217 per cent, wheat by 136 per cent, corn by 125 per cent and soybeans by 107 per cent.

food bills of the least developed countries increased by 19 per cent and those for vegetable oils and dairy products by 37 and 63 per cent, respectively. Bills for cereals were also up by 26 per cent.[3]

13. In the attempt to minimize food insecurity, 11 of the least developed countries have reduced import taxes on food grains and 4 have imposed export restrictions. Eight of the least developed countries have increased supply using food grain stocks and four have either put in place price controls or introduced consumer subsidies. However, contrary to the intention, these measures may only add to the problem, discouraging farmers from producing and preventing them from selling, thereby increasing food shortages in world markets and contributing to even higher global prices.

14. Of the 50 least developed countries, 47 are classified by FAO as low-income, food-deficit countries and 20 as countries in food crisis. According to FAO, food imports account for 35 per cent of the calorie intake in these countries and high food prices mean that poor households spend about 70 per cent of their income on food. High food prices could destabilize the political situation and trigger social unrest. At least five people were killed in a food riot in Haiti early in April 2008, leading to the fall of the Government and an emergency situation jeopardizing economic recovery and national reconciliation in this post-conflict country.[4] Food riots have also taken place in Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Mauritania, Mozambique, Senegal and Yemen. The food situation has been precarious in a number of other least developed countries, including Bangladesh, the largest least developed country, which recently suffered two severe floods and a cyclone that destroyed about 3.0 million tons of food grains.

Commitment 2
Good governance at the national and international levels

15. The Brussels Programme emphasizes that transparent, accountable and efficient practices within government, the private sector and civil society, the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national level, and an open, equitable, rule-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral and financial system at the international level, are critical to the Programme's success.

16. The *Worldwide Governance Indicators* project measures good governance performance in six areas (voice and accountability, political stability and absence of violence, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law and control of corruption) on a scale from -2.5 to +2.5. The indicators for 2007[5] show steady improvement in the performance of the least developed countries in four areas (voice and accountability, political stability, rule of law and control of corruption) but a worsening in two other areas (government effectiveness and regulatory quality) since 2000. The latter were the two areas in which the least developed countries scored lowest among all groups of countries during the period from 2000 to 2006.

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[3] See FAO, *Food Outlook* (November 2007), at http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/ah876e/ah876e01.htm.

[4] United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) press release PIO/PR/359/FR/2008 dated 14 April 2008, available in French at http://www.minustah.org/articles/1200/1/Communique-de-presse--359/PIOPR359FR2008.html.

[5] Available at http://info.worldbank.org/governance/wgi2007/.

17. In 2006, 48 of the 50 least developed countries were eligible for external lending from the International Development Association (IDA). The Country Policy and Institutional Assessment rating, decisive in the allocation of IDA interest-free credits and grants, measures good governance performance against 16 indicators in four areas (economic management, structural policies, policies for social inclusion/equity, and public sector management and institutions) on a scale from 1 (low) to 6 (high). Performance above the midpoint (3.5) is considered to be strong and below as weak. In 2006, the least developed countries scored 3.4 in economic management, 3.2 in structural policies, 3.2 in social policies and 3.0 in public sector management.[6] Except for the marginal change (-0.1) in structural policies, those scores were precisely the same as in 2005 and showed weak governance performance.

18. An analysis of *Doing Business* indicators, which measure the ease of doing business in 10 areas (starting a business, dealing with licenses, employing workers, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts and closing a business), show that, except for paying taxes and enforcing contacts, the least developed countries were the most difficult in which to do business of the 178 countries surveyed in 2007.[7] The least developed countries were also the slowest to reform. Thus, easing business entry is the most popular reform among all countries but, while countries members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) reduced the time to start a business by 47 per cent between 2003 and 2007, the least developed countries cut the time by only 15 per cent in the same period.

19. Fiscal revenues from extractive industries (taxes, royalties, signature bonuses and other payments) can contribute to economic growth and social development, if managed properly. The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) supports transparency and accountability by making companies publish what they pay and Governments what they receive from the exploration of natural oil, gas and minerals. The EITI country implementation process is comprised of five stages: (a) signing up to the EITI principles and preparation of the workplan; (b) preparation (establishment of the multi-stakeholder committee, appointment of the EITI administrator and ensuring accounts auditing); (c) disclosure of revenues and reconciliation of payments and revenues; (d) dissemination (making public the EITI report); and (e) external validation at least every two years.

20. In 2008, Madagascar and Timor-Leste joined EITI by signing up to its principles. This brought the number of least developed countries among EITI candidate countries to 12, including the 8 which are currently at the preparation stage and the 2 (Guinea and Mauritania) which have disclosed their revenues. None of the least developed countries have published the EITI report or undertaken external validation, both necessary for acquiring the status of EITI compliant country. Guinea has become the first country to commence the renewed and invigorated Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (known as EITI++), which aims to translate the high revenues obtained from the exploration of natural resources into better standards of living for poor people. Under EITI++, Guinea will receive technical assistance in awarding contracts, monitoring operations, collecting

[6] http://siteresources.worldbank.org/IDA/Resources/73153-1181752621336/TRA!2006table1.xls.

[7] See *Doing Business 2008: Comparing Regulation in 178 Economies* (World Bank, September 2007).

taxes, improving resource extraction, managing price volatility and effectively investing revenues in sustainable development.

21. Given their small size and high value, diamonds are often used in illegal transactions, money-laundering, arms purchases, etc. Diamonds fuelled seven brutal wars in Africa in 1990, including four in the least developed countries of Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia and Sierra Leone. Recognizing the devastating role of the illicit trade in diamonds in fuelling conflicts, supporting the activities of rebel movements aimed at overthrowing legitimate government and in the procurement of small arms and light weapons, as well as the benefits of the legitimate diamond trade to the economies of producing, exporting and importing countries, 11 of the least developed countries have joined the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, an international certification scheme which has regulated the legal trade in rough diamonds since 2003.

22. At the fifth annual meeting of the Kimberley Process held in November 2007, Burkina Faso and Mali affirmed their decision to participate in the Process and Cape Verde and Zambia expressed their interest in participating. Five of the least developed countries (Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Lesotho, Togo and United Republic of Tanzania) have held the first round of reviews and four (Angola, Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo and Guinea) have invited the Working Group on Monitoring to undertake a second round of review visits.

23. The Kimberley Process has contributed to a significant reduction in the international trade in conflict diamonds. It is estimated that less than 1 per cent of the diamonds traded in 2006 were conflict diamonds, compared to 15 per cent in 1990. The legal export of diamonds has increased proportionately: diamond exports in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2006 were the highest since their presence was discovered 100 years ago. Legal exports of diamonds in Sierra Leone have increased 100-fold since the end of the war in 2002 and brought benefits to the estimated 10 per cent of the population which depends on the diamond industry.[8]

Commitment 3
Building human and institutional capacities

24. The Brussels Programme recognizes that women, men and children are the greatest assets of the least developed countries. Strengthening their potential as both agents and beneficiaries of development is one of the major objectives of the Programme.

25. In 2006, 14 of the 45 least developed countries for which trend data are available were on track to achieving the target of reducing maternal mortality by three quarters by 2015, and an additional 7 were making significant progress towards that goal. However, the remaining 24, including 18 with the highest rates of maternal mortality, were making no progress and could experience a negative trend unless major improvements in nutrition and public health service delivery are made, especially in rural areas. Particularly high maternal mortality rates were found in sub-Saharan Africa.

[8] For the 2007 report on the Kimberley Process, see A/62/543 and Add.1.

26. About one third of the 50 least developed countries has achieved or is on track to achieving the goal of reducing the infant mortality rate. Twelve others have made substantial progress since 1990 towards attaining the target and data show continuing progress during the period from 2004 to 2006. However, no progress or even negative change was reported in 11 others with very high infant mortality rates.

27. By 2006, 15 of the 50 least developed countries met or were on track to meeting the target for the under-5 mortality rate. Significant progress, though still insufficient to achieve the target by 2010, has been made in another 20 since 1990. However, minimal or negative trends were observed in 15 others, with the highest rates of under-5 mortality.

28. Malnutrition is the underlying cause of almost 50 per cent of child deaths. Although there was good evidence of improvement in nutrition among children under 5 years of age in 17 of the 48 least developed countries for which data are available, little or no improvement was found in the other 31, including the 18 in which over 30 per cent of children under 5 years of age suffer from the moderate or severe wasting (underweight relative to height) associated with disease or acute malnutrition.

29. Use of treated mosquito nets has increased in the past few years but, of the 32 least developed countries for which data are available, only 4 reported more than 25 per cent and 19 reported 10 per cent of children sleeping under treated mosquito nets since 2003. Treatment with anti-malarial drugs is more widespread: 23 of the 33 least developed countries for which data are available report their use by one quarter of children with fever. Estimates available in 2006 of malaria prevalence and deaths per 1,000 population in the period from 1990 to 2003 show that, of the 30 least developed countries for which trend data are available, 15 reported a marked improvement, while 13 reported a deterioration. Very high numbers of deaths from malaria are found in 10 of the least developed countries and high numbers in another 9. High prevalence of malaria is mainly found in southern and south-eastern Asia, and in sub-Saharan Africa where most deaths from malaria occur.

30. Good progress was continuing to be made in the treatment of tuberculosis under DOTS, the internationally recommended tuberculosis control strategy, with an increasing number of the least developed countries (19 in 2005 compared to 9 in 2002) achieving the 85+ percentage coverage recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO). Rates of detection of tuberculosis have also been improving: in 2006, 12 of the least developed countries, compared to 7 in 2003, achieved the WHO 70+ per cent detection target, while the number of those with low rates of detection decreased from 11 in 2003 to 7 in 2006. The prevalence of tuberculosis and death rates declined substantially in some of the least developed countries but the number of those in which there was high prevalence increased from 26 in 2003 to 29 in 2006, while the number with high death rates declined from 24 in 2003 to 22 in 2006.

31. New data for the period from 2000 to 2006 show increased knowledge and prevention of HIV/AIDS in most of the least developed countries for which data are available. Declines in HIV incidence are now reported in three fifths of the least developed countries for which trend data are available. However, there are pronounced intra- and interregional differences. In Asia and the Pacific, the epidemic has been largely confined, with only three of the least developed countries

believed to have rates over 0.1. The rates in Cambodia, the most affected least developed country in the Asian and Pacific region, has been rapidly falling. In the least developed countries in southern and eastern Africa, rates of HIV incidence remain the highest (10 per 100 population) and the extent of decline is still uncertain. In Central and West Africa, rates between 1 and 4 cases per 100 population are believed to be declining.

32. Twenty-six of the least developed countries are on track or are making rapid progress towards achieving the universal primary education enrolment goal, up from 17 a decade ago. The number of countries making little or no progress is also down substantially, from 12 in the decade 1991-2000 to 7 in the period since 2000.

33. However, the most recent data show that less progress was made than initially thought on the goals for gender equality in education, with many countries reporting little or no progress and even a decline. Of the 40 least developed countries for which data are available, 22 either met in 2005 or are on track to reaching the gender equality target in primary education by 2010. Twelve others were making progress but insufficient to meet the gender target for primary education by 2010. No progress was observed in the remaining six. Of the 31 least developed countries for which data for 2005 were available, 10 met or were on track to meeting the gender equality goal in secondary education, up from 8 in 2000. Another 7 were making progress, although insufficient to meet the target. In nearly one half of the least developed countries, little or no progress was made during the period from 2000 to 2005 on the gender target in secondary education. Less than one third for which data are available met or were on track to meeting the target on gender equality in tertiary education, indicating that there had been no change between 1999 and 2005.

34. Twenty-eight of the least developed countries were on track to achieving the sanitation target in urban areas, up from 26 in 2002, but little progress was made in the others. The situation in rural areas appears to have been deteriorating: the number of the least developed countries on track to meeting the target dropped from 16 in 2002 to 10 in 2004, and there has been very low coverage and no improvement in another 25 since 2002.

35. Meeting the target on access to safe drinking water was largely on track in urban areas: there was improved access in 45 of the 50 least developed countries but only 20 had achieved or were on track to achieving the target in rural areas by 2015. Very high (more than 3 per cent annually) urban population growth in the majority of the least developed countries (30 of the 50) poses a main challenge to the development of infrastructure for providing improved access to safe drinking water and sanitation.

36. The situation concerning access to improved sanitation was much worse: wide coverage of the population in urban areas was reported in six of the least developed countries, and in rural areas, in only one. Only around one half of the population in urban areas in the majority of the least developed countries and less than 35 per cent of that in rural areas in two thirds of the least developed countries had access to improved sanitation.

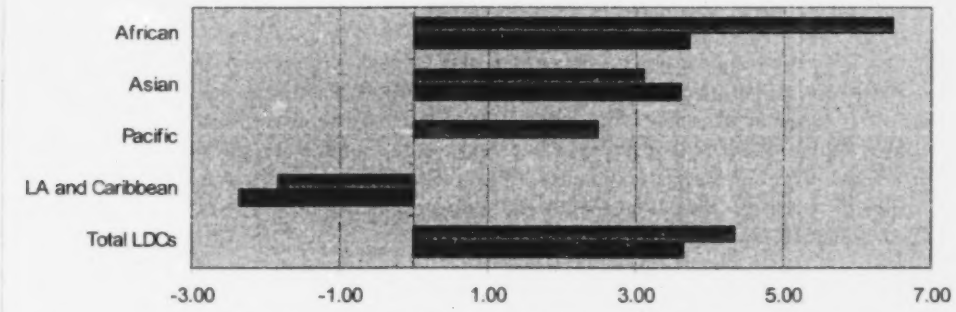
Commitment 4
Building productive capacities to make globalization work for the least developed countries

37. The new wave of globalization has brought both opportunities and challenges but whether the least developed countries will ride or be submerged under this wave depends on their ability to build national productive capacities through capital accumulation and technological progress, which could lead to structural change.[9]

38. Over 72 per cent of the population of the least developed countries still lives in rural areas and depends for subsistence and income on agriculture. In 2006, agriculture contributed 28.4 per cent of the least developed countries GDP but, in individual countries, its contribution was even higher: over 60 per cent in Guinea-Bissau and over 40 per cent in Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and the United Republic of Tanzania.

39. Notwithstanding its importance for the economy and the livelihoods of the rural population, agriculture remains underdeveloped and agricultural productivity in the least developed countries has been declining. Data available in 2007 show that the annual rate of increase in cereal production in the African least developed countries fell by one half and of that roots and tubers, subsistence staples in Africa, from 3.40 per cent to a negative 1.22 per cent. In the Asian least developed countries, the rate of increase in cereal production improved slightly in 2005/06 (see fig. 3), while the production of roots and tubers, much less significant crops in Asia than in Africa, has been rapidly growing.

Figure 3
Annual rate of growth in cereal production in the least developed countries, 2000-2005 and 2005/06
(Percentage)



	Total LDCs	Latin America and Caribbean	Pacific	Asian	African
■ 2000-2005	4.32	-1.84	2.46	3.10	6.48
■ 2005/2006	3.63	-2.36	0.00	3.60	3.72

[9] See United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, *The Least Developed Countries Report 2006* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.06.II.D.9).

40. Declining soil fertility is one of the major causes of falling crop yields and food production in the least developed countries. Despite the highest needs for replenishment of nutrient-depleted soils, the use of fertilizers in the least developed countries remains extremely low owing to high local prices. It is estimated that, in the period from 2000 to 2003, fertilizer use in the Asian least developed countries was 44 kg per hectare and 7 kg in those in Africa.[10] According to the International Centre for Soil Fertility and Agriculture Development, global prices for fertilizers grew steadily during the period from 2004 to 2006 owing to the higher demand in emerging economies for grain-fed meat. In 2007, food prices soared by over 200 per cent as farmers in industrialized countries increased the use of fertilizers in their efforts to raise grain production for biofuel.

41. A recent study shows that the bottom 75 per cent of the population in the African least developed countries has access to less than 0.26 hectares per capita and the bottom 70 per cent of population in the Asian least developed countries has access to less than one hectare of land, while the most disadvantaged 25 per cent of small farmers are virtually landless. Richer households have higher yields owing to better access to inputs (fertilizers, seeds and planting material) and irrigation. As a result, in the African least developed countries, net farm output per hectare for the richest 25 per cent of households was three to six times higher than that of the poorest 25 per cent. Similar patterns were observed in the Asian least developed countries.[10]

42. The proportion of irrigated agricultural land in the Asian least developed countries increased from 10 per cent in the 1960s to 30 per cent in the period from 2000 to 2003. A particularly strong (7-53 per cent) increase in irrigated land was recorded in Bangladesh but also in the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Nepal owing to high public investment in irrigation. By contrast, only 7 per cent of agricultural land in the African least developed countries was irrigated in the period from 2000 to 2003, almost the same proportion as in the 1960s.[10]

43. As a result of declining soil fertility, poor access to improved seeds and planting materials, dependence on weather-sensitive agriculture, unsustainable use and management of natural resources (water, land, forestry, fisheries), chronic underinvestment in science and research, and lack of access to land, modern technology, markets and finance, many of the least developed countries formerly exporters of agricultural products have since 1990 become importers.

44. Poor transport infrastructure and high transport costs impede the access of the least developed countries to local and international markets, while lack of safe storage and of access to market information causes significant losses of harvested crops.

45. Data available for the period from 1999 to 2003 showed a significant increase since 1995 in the number of countries with 15 per cent or more of paved roads but little or no change in the total length of roads in the majority of the least developed countries since 1990. Data available for the period from 2000 to 2006 for 11 of the least developed countries show an increase in the lengths of roads in 7 and no change or even a decrease in the other 4. During the same period, the percentage of paved roads increased in 4 of the least developed countries and declined in 7.

[10] Ibid.

46. Railways lengths are limited in most of the least developed countries for which data are available. Of the 10 for which trend data are available, freight tons have been increasing in 3 and stable or falling in the remaining 7.

47. Air services have been increasing significantly in one half of the least developed countries for which data are available, with no progress made or services declining in the rest. Significant levels in the transport of air freight (more than 10 million tons per km) were registered in 17 of the least developed countries during the period from 2004 to 2006. However, 17 of the 24 for which trend data are available registered minimal growth or decline in air freight volume.

48. In 2006, 36 of the least developed countries reached the target of increasing average telephone density to 5 or more main line telephone and cellular service connections per 100 inhabitants, with 11 more on track to meeting it by 2010. Of the 49 least developed countries for which data are available, in only 1 was there minimal service (fewer than 2 lines per 100 inhabitants), compared to 45 of 48 in 1990.

49. The number of the least developed countries with 1 Internet user per 100 inhabitants increased from 7 in 2000 to 27 in 2006. Still, 21 of the 47 for which data are available had less than 1 Internet user per 100 inhabitants in 2006. Furthermore, only 1 per cent of the population in the least developed countries used the Internet in 2006, compared to 11 per cent of the population in developing countries and 60 per cent of the population in developed countries.

Commitment 5
Enhancing the role of trade in development

50. Merchandise exports of the least developed countries as a percentage of world exports have been growing steadily since 2002 and reached 0.9 per cent in 2006. However, excluding oil, their share in world trade in 2006 remained at the level of 2002: 0.4 per cent.

51. The annual rate of growth in exports by the least developed countries in 2006 decreased by 9 per cent compared to 2005 but was still double the rate of global exports. Exports of manufactures by the least developed countries in 2005 and 2006 grew faster than world exports for the first time in the decade and their exports of commodities in 2006 returned to the high rate of 2004. It is worth noting that the least developed countries exporters of commodities experienced a more heterogeneous growth pattern owing to greater variance in international prices between mineral and agricultural commodities.

52. The average tariffs levied by developed countries on textiles decreased from 4.5 per cent in 1996 to 3.2 per cent in 2006 but the decrease in tariffs on clothing, a strategically important sector for many of the least developed countries, was much less: 8.1 per cent in 1996, compared to 6.4 per cent in 2006. Average tariffs levied by developed countries on agricultural commodities have decreased steadily: from 4 per cent in 1996 to 2.8 per cent in 2006 (see table 1).

Table 1
Average tariffs levied by developed countries on imports of key products from developing countries, 1996-2006
(Percentage)

	1996	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*	*2003*	*2004*	*2005*	*2006*
Agricultural goods											
Developing countries[a]	10.5	10.0	10.0	9.5	9.3	9.3	9.5	9.4	9.2	8.9	8.6
Least developed countries	4.0	3.8	3.6	3.7	3.7	2.7	2.8	2.8	3.1	3.1	2.8
Textiles											
Developing countries[a]	7.3	7.2	7.0	6.6	6.6	6.6	6.0	5.8	5.2	5.3	5.2
Least developed countries	4.5	4.5	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.8	3.8	3.5	3.2	3.2	3.2
Clothing											
Developing countries[a]	11.4	11.3	11.2	10.9	10.8	11.3	10.0	9.7	8.6	8.3	8.2
Least developed countries	8.1	8.1	8.0	7.9	7.8	7.7	7.4	7.0	6.4	6.4	6.4

Source: Calculations by the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO.
[a] All developing countries, including the least developed countries.

53. There has been almost no change since 1996 in duty-free access to developed country markets for products originating from the least developed countries (see table 2). Although the percentage of exports from the least developed countries, excluding arms, increased from 68 per cent in 1996 to 89 per cent in 2006, the percentage of exports from the least developed countries, excluding arms and oil, increased only marginally: from 78 per cent in 1996 to 79 per cent in 2006.

Table 2
Proportion of total developed country imports from developing countries and the least developed countries admitted free of duty, 1996-2006
(Percentage)

	1996	*1997*	*1998*	*1999*	*2000*	*2001*	*2002*	*2003*	*2004*	*2005*	*2006*
Excluding arms											
Developing countries[a]	53	54	54	62	63	67	67	71	76	76	81
Least developed countries	68	69	81	76	75	78	78	81	82	83	89
Excluding arms and oil											
Developing countries[a]	54	55	54	63	65	64	69	71	76	76	77
Least developed countries	78	77	78	72	70	71	74	78	80	80	79

Source: Calculations by the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO.
[a] All developing countries, including the least developed countries.

54. In response to the decision taken at the Sixth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO) held in Hong Kong, China, in December 2005, concerning 97 per cent duty-free and quota-free market access for products of the least developed countries, some developed countries informed WTO that they had met the conditions (Australia, members of the European Communities, New Zealand

and Norway) and a few others provided information on the steps taken in that regard. With the enlargement of the European Union and the subsequent expansion of the Customs Union, Bulgaria and Romania will also provide duty-free and quota-free market access for exports from the least developed countries under the Everything But Arms initiative. Turkey will grant them the same access as part of its alignment with the Generalized System of Preferences scheme of the European Union under the Customs Union agreement.[11]

55. Several developing countries (e.g., China, Brazil, India and the Republic of Korea) have also indicated their intention to improve markets access for the least developed countries, either on a bilateral basis or within the framework of regional trade agreements.

56. In April 2008, India announced a duty-free tariff preference scheme for all of the least developed countries. The scheme will cover 94 per cent of the total tariff lines of India and offer preferential market access to almost 93 per cent of exports from the least developed countries. Products of immediate interest for the least developed countries include cotton, cocoa, aluminium ore, cashew nuts and ready-made garments. To enjoy tariff preference, a product must be classified as originating in the least developed country and as (a) wholly produced or obtained or (b) not wholly produced or obtained. India will also provide technical assistance, as appropriate, for the effective implementation of the scheme.

57. Between 2001 and 2004, official development assistance (ODA) provided by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/Development Assistance Committee (OECD/DAC) to trade-related capacity-building in the least developed countries fell by 42 per cent but has increased since 2005. As a percentage of the total provided by OECD/DAC to the least developed countries, ODA for trade-related capacity-building fell from 4.5 per cent in 2001 to 1.6 per cent in 2005 but recovered to 2.6 per cent in 2006, still below the 2001 high.

58. As of March 2008, 46 of the 50 least developed countries were at different stages of the Integrated Framework for Trade-related Technical Assistance,[12] including 30 which had concluded the diagnostic trade integrated study process and held a validation workshop, 11 which had started that process and 5 in which the technical reviews were under way. The countries which have not yet applied are Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar and Somalia.

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[11] Note by the secretariat of WTO on market access for products and services of export interest to the least developed countries (WT/COMTD/LDC/W/41/Rev.1).

[12] The Integrated Framework, established in 1997 and revamped in 2000, is managed by six agencies (International Monetary Fund, International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Development Programme, World Bank and World Trade Organization). It is aimed at assisting the least developed countries in mainstreaming trade into their national development plans and poverty reduction strategy papers and facilitating the coordinated delivery of trade-related assistance. By addressing their supply-side constraints, it also contributes to better integration of the least developed countries in the multilateral trading system. There are four stages to the Integrated Framework process: (a) building awareness of the importance of trade for development; (b) preparation of a diagnostic trade integrated study and an action plan for better integration in the global trading system; (c) integration of the plan of action in national development plans and poverty reduction strategy papers; and (d) implementation of the action plan in partnership with the development partners.

59. Following the decision of the Sixth Ministerial Conference of WTO in December 2005 to enhance the Integrated Framework, the bodies concerned adopted recommendations on its enhancement and began its operationalization in May 2007. It is estimated that the implementation of the Enhanced Integrated Framework will require US$ 400 million for the first 15 years. Of this amount, US$ 250 million will be provided from the related trust fund and the remainder through bilateral assistance programmes. Of the US$ 250 million necessary for the replenishment of the trust fund, US$ 110 million was pledged at a conference held in Stockholm on 25 September 2007. The Enhanced Integrated Framework is aimed at providing (a) increased, additional, predictable financial resources for the implementation of action matrices, (b) strengthened in-country capacities to manage, implement and monitor the Integrated Framework process and (c) enhanced Integrated Framework governance. Implementation of the Enhanced Integrated Framework will also facilitate the access of the least developed countries to funding of trade-related projects under the Aid for Trade initiative.

60. Despite the adoption of guidelines to facilitate and accelerate negotiations on the accession of the least developed countries to WTO by the General Council in 2002 and subsequent decisions of the ministerial conferences of WTO, only three of the least developed countries (Cambodia, Cape-Verde and Nepal) have joined WTO since its establishment in 1995. Ten of the other least developed countries are at various stages of accession.

Commitment 6
Reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment

61. Although the least developed countries contribute least to global warming (0.4 per cent of cumulative greenhouse gas emissions between 1995-2005), they are hardest hit by the adverse effects of climate change owing to high vulnerability and lowest adaptive capacities.

62. Under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, all developed and developing countries agreed to formulate and implement national programmes containing measures to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change. Recognizing the special needs of the least developed countries, in particular in terms of funding and transfer of technology, the Conference of the Parties has established the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group, with a view to assisting them in the preparation and implementation of national adaptation programmes of action by providing technical guidance and advice.

63. The process for the national adaptation programmes of action consists of the following stages: (a) synthesis of available information; (b) participatory assessment of vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather events; (c) identification of areas of highest risk; (d) identification of key adaptation measures; (e) selection of criteria for the prioritization of activities; and (f) compilation of a short list of prioritized activities. The development of a programme of action also involves preparing outlines of projects and related activities aimed at addressing the most urgent and immediate adaptation needs of the least developed countries.

64. By 2008, 46 of the least developed countries had prepared or were preparing national adaptation programmes of action, many with the assistance of the Least Developed Countries Expert Group. As at 30 April 2007, cumulative net allocations

from the Least Developed Countries Fund amounted to US$ 12 million. All approved allocations were committed and disbursed. Seventeen donors have pledged contributions to the Fund, with the total amount of pledges reaching US$ 115.8 million.

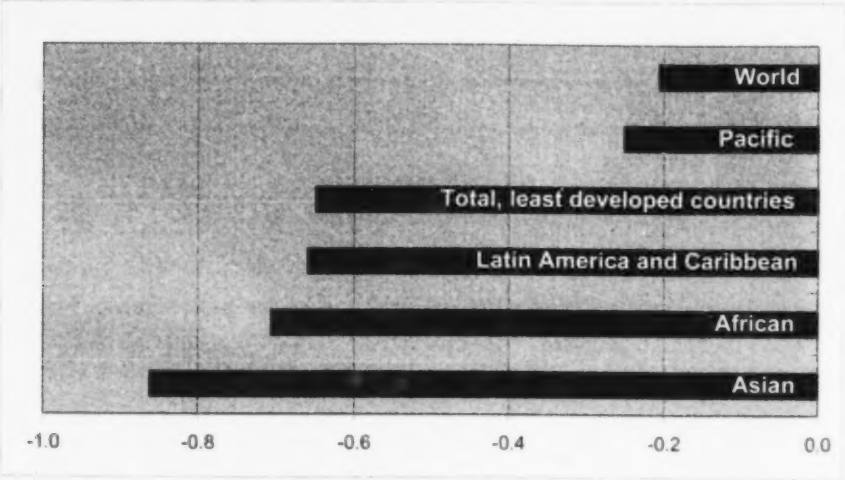
65. The stocktaking exercise of 21 completed programmes of action undertaken by the Least Developed Countries Expert Group at a meeting held in Bangkok from 3 to 5 September 2007 showed that the limited integration of adaptation strategies into national development policy and planning and a lack of technical and institutional capacity were major barriers to implementing the adaptation measures. More specifically, the least developed countries lack (a) the ability to incorporate climate change and other environmental issues into socio-economic and sectoral plans, (b) the capacity to mainstream adaptation strategies into broader national development, (c) the ability to formulate, analyse and implement integrated strategies and policies, (d) availability of and access to data, (e) the capacity and resources of research institutions, (f) the in-depth knowledge required to develop fundable adaptation projects and (g) adequate technical support.

66. The Clean Development Mechanism, established under the Kyoto Protocol, has been the principal mechanism for financing low-carbon technologies in developing countries. However, the Mechanism benefits large emitting developing countries, not those which have the least capacity to adapt to climate change. As at 11 April 2008, 999 projects for the issuance of 205,064,680 million certified emission reductions were registered and another 86 projects for the issuance of 14,266,652 certified emission reductions were in the process of registration. Brazil, Chile, China, India, Malaysia, Mexico and the Republic of Korea accounted for 80.78 per cent of all project activities. Large countries submit large projects which account for 52.17 per cent of all project activities under the Clean Development Mechanism. Most of the projects are in the energy sector, industry and transport. Agriculture and forestry, strategic sectors for the least developed countries, account for only 6.5 per cent and 0.08 per cent, respectively, of all project activities. In addition, the Clean Development Mechanism registration process remains complicated and there is an admission fee. As a result, while the number of projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism increased from 500 to just under 1,000 between February 2007 and April 2008, the number from the least developed countries increased from 7 to 9.

67. Given their minimal contribution to global greenhouse gas emissions, adaptation is the major response of the least developed countries to climate change. However, adaptation can be effective only when it is complemented by mitigation.

68. Deforestation contributes to 17.3 per cent of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions. Agricultural expansion, wood extraction and infrastructural expansion are the major causes of deforestation. During the period from 2000 to 2005, the average annual rate of deforestation in the least developed countries was 0.70 per cent, compared to 0.18 per cent globally. The average annual rate of deforestation in the Asian least developed countries and those in the Pacific was even higher: 0.93 per cent and 0.78 per cent, respectively. The African least developed countries had lower rates of deforestation (0.60 per cent), however, rapid deforestation has been taking place in a number of them: Benin (2.5 per cent), Burundi (5 per cent), Togo (4.5 per cent) and Uganda (2.2 per cent).

Figure 4
Average annual rate of deforestation in the least developed countries, 1990-2005

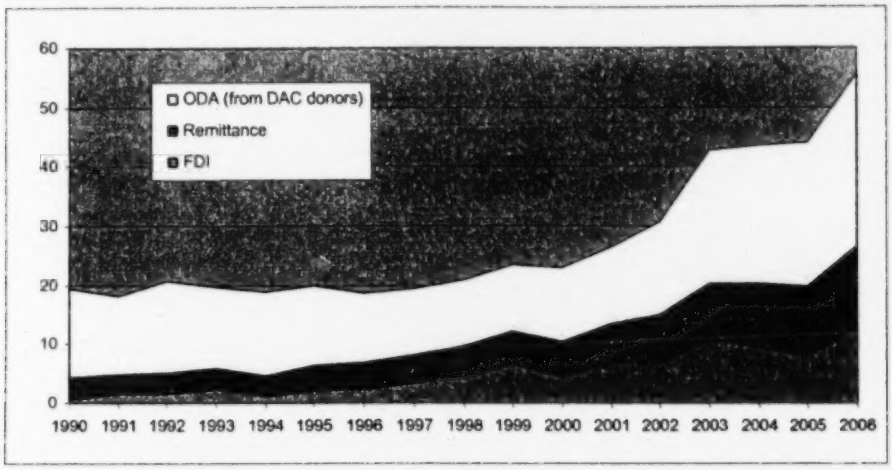


69. With 86 million hectares in area, the rainforest of the Democratic Republic of the Congo is the world's second largest tropical forest, providing 8 per cent of global carbon storage. It is estimated that forest loss and degradation in the Congo River basin can release into the atmosphere 34.4 billion tons of carbon dioxide by 2050, more than any other land use practice on the continent. The forests in Democratic Republic of the Congo are vital not only for the global environment but for the livelihoods of the Congolese people. Almost 40 million rural Congolese depend on the forests for their food, income, energy, shelter, medicines and cultural needs. Indigenous groups, including the Pygmies, rely almost entirely on them. Socially, environmentally and economically sustainable policies are therefore crucial for the sustainable management of those forests.

Commitment 7
Mobilizing financial resources

70. Effective public finance, including taxation, is essential for financing development. However, the tax base in the least developed countries remains too narrow, and tax collection institutions and policies too weak, to generate adequate public revenues. As a result, domestic resource mobilization remains a challenge for many of the least developed countries which rely, some heavily, on ODA. In 2006, ODA accounted for between 40 and 70 per cent of public finance in some and 8.8 per cent of the gross national income (GNI) of the least developed countries as a whole. In 11, however, the share of ODA to GNI was higher (more than 20 per cent), reaching above 50 per cent in Samoa (60 per cent), Madagascar (54 per cent) and Burundi (53 per cent).

Figure 5
Source of development finance for the least developed countries, 1990-2006
(Billions of United States dollars)



71. Total donor ODA received by the least developed countries has continued to increase since 2000 and reached US$ 29.4 billion in 2006. However, both as a percentage of total donor ODA (28.2 per cent) and a percentage of donor GNI (0.09 per cent), ODA received by the least developed countries remained at the level of 1990. Most of the increase in ODA was due to debt forgiveness and emergency assistance. Six of 22 donors met the ODA/GNI target of 0.20 per cent in 2006, only one more than in 2000. Two donors (Belgium and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland) are on track to meeting the 0.20 per cent target and three others to meeting the interim target of 0.15 per cent by 2010.

72. Total expenditure of the United Nations system on operational activities in the least developed countries has doubled since 2002 and in 2006 reached US$ 5.3 billion. As a percentage of its total expenditure on operational activities, expenditure in the least developed countries steadily increased from 28.4 per cent in 2002 to 36.7 per cent in 2005 but dropped to 34.0 per cent in 2006, mainly owing to the significant decreases in expenditure by the World Food Programme (WFP) (-7.1 per cent) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) (-4.1 per cent). All top 10 recipients of United Nations expenditure on operational activities as a percentage of GNI in 2006 were least developed countries: Liberia (34 per cent), Burundi (17 per cent), the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives and Timor-Leste (more than 5 per cent) and Malawi, Sao Tome and Principe and Sierra Leone (more than 4 per cent). Thirteen of the top 20 recipients of United Nations assistance per capita in 2006 were also least developed countries, including the Maldives (US$ 145), Liberia (US$ 47), Timor-Leste (US$ 46) and Sao Tome and Principe (US$ 37).

73. As of February 2008, 32 of the 50 least developed countries had participated in the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Delivery of debt relief by the World Bank under HIPC and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative (MDRI) continued increase,

from US$ 2.80 billion in mid-2006 to US$ 3.24 billion by the beginning of 2008, reaching 37 per cent of commitments in 2006 terms of net present value. Delivery by IMF, already at 80 per cent in 2006, increased to 88 per cent, or US$ 1.34 billion. The number of the least developed countries which have passed the completion point has increased from 13 in 2006 to 17 in 2008. Twelve of the least developed countries passed from the pre-decision to the pre-completion point, while those remaining under consideration were dropped.

74. As a result of the debt relief measures implemented under HIPC and MDRI, 32 of the least developed countries in 2006 reduced the ratio of debt service to exports of goods and services to below 10 per cent, compared to 29 in 2004 and only 14 in 1990. Furthermore, none of the least developed countries had a ratio of debt service to exports over 20 per cent, compared to 11 in 1990. Reduced debt service ratios can be also attributed to the significant increase in exports from the least developed countries. Notwithstanding the positive impact of the debt relief measures, nine post-completion least developed countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Sao Tome and Principe and Sierra Leone) showed a moderate risk of debt distress and one (Rwanda) a high risk, suggesting that the underlying vulnerabilities in regard to debt sustainability remain and need to be further addressed.

75. Unsurprisingly, six of the seven least developed countries at risk of debt distress have been identified for additional debt relief at a completion point (referred to as topping up), including two (Malawi and Sao Tome and Principe) to which it has been committed. Topping up assistance to Sao Tome and Principe has been committed owing to the severe impact of drought on its export volumes. The largely unexpected decline in export prices and a fall in international interest rates were the main factors behind the commitment to top up debt relief to Malawi.

76. Total foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows to the least developed countries, in current United States dollars, have almost tripled since 1990 and in 2006 reached US$ 12,334 million. As a percentage of GDP, FDI in the least developed countries has increased ninefold since 1990 and in 2006 reached 3.7 per cent. The number of the least developed countries with a share of FDI in GDP of over 5 per cent increased from 6 in 1990 to 14 in 2006, while the number of those with a share of less than 1 per cent or negative, declined from 26 in 1990 to 14 in 2006. Among the regions, the oil-exporting least developed countries in Africa and the least developed countries in the Pacific had the highest share (the 6 per cent and 6.8 per cent, respectively) of FDI as a percentage of GDP among the 44 least developed countries for which 2006 data are available.

77. Workers' remittances to the least developed countries have doubled since 2000 and in 2006 reached US$ 14.02 billion. More than one half of the remittances originated in developing countries. The top 10 recipients of remittances among the least developed countries in 2006 were Bangladesh, Cambodia, Haiti, Lesotho, Nepal, Senegal, the Sudan and Togo. In 2006, the top 10 recipients as a percentage of GDP were Bangladesh, Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kiribati, Lesotho, Nepal, Togo and Uganda.

III. Conclusions and recommendations

78. During the reporting period, the strong economic performance of the least developed countries continued, with most of them, except those in the Pacific, having met or on track to achieving the growth and investment targets of the Brussels Programme by 2010. Merchandise exports of the least developed countries have been growing at double the rate of world exports since 2000. Net foreign direct investment and remittance inflows to the least developed countries have more than doubled.

79. The progress made in regard to human development targets has been noticeable in health and education but further advances will crucially depend on improved access to water and sanitation where progress has been far less owing to chronic underinvestment in the infrastructure for delivering services in rural areas and the rapid growth of the population in urban areas. Also, less progress than previously thought has been made in gender parity in education and no progress has been made in relation to maternal mortality. Trend data on extreme poverty suggest that almost 50 per cent of the population in one half of the least developed countries for which data are available live in extreme poverty, while malnutrition seems to be worsening, particularly among children and women.

80. The rising costs of basic food exacerbate malnutrition and seriously jeopardize international efforts to achieve the overarching objective of the Brussels Programme to halve the proportion of people living in extreme poverty and hunger in the least developed countries by 2010. Furthermore, the rise in costs risks destabilizing the political situation and triggering social unrest in countries, including 26 of the least developed countries, in which there is political instability. The global food crisis, caused by high oil prices, poor harvests as a result of extreme weather, change in diets in emerging economies and the production of biofuel, needs to be addressed immediately and comprehensively, taking into account both the demand for and supply of food.

81. On the demand side, energy consumption could be significantly decreased by adopting cost-effective, energy-efficient technologies in buildings, industry and transport, as well as carbon saving strategies which will enable the tackling of climate change, and securing the provision of sustainable energy.

82. On the supply side, the short-term strategy should include (a) provision of immediate humanitarian assistance to countries in food crisis, which requires scaling up international assistance and closing a US$ 750 million hole doled up by high food prices in the WFP budget; (b) social protection programmes, such as cash support, food-for-work programmes and school feeding programmes; and (c) financial lending and crop insurance schemes.

83. In the medium term, the prospects for supply rely on an increase in agricultural productivity by improving the access of farmers to finance and markets, enabling them to purchase the agricultural input (seeds and fertilizers), agricultural machinery and tools and other innovations for obtaining higher yields. Higher yields require better irrigation, transport infrastructure, electricity, investment in research and development and improvement of market information systems. A medium-term solution to the food crisis also requires rethinking the use of biofuel which accounts for between 10 and 30 per cent of the increase in global food prices. Higher food prices could reduce calorie intake by 4.8 per cent in Africa and 2.5 per cent in Asia

by 2020, according to various sources. Given its share in oil supplies and its critical role in the oil demand-supply balance, curbing the use of biofuels could push oil prices higher, increasing cost of transportation and fertilizers, two of the biggest components of agricultural costs which push food prices further up. Competition for grain can be reduced by producing biofuel from sugar (ethanol) or by the production of second generation biofuel from waste products (straw or wood).

84. In the long term, the state-led green revolution, through its extension, should facilitate the transition to a high-value agricultural revolution led by the private sector. Given its large share in the economy and large rural populations, agriculture has an enormous potential to reduce poverty in the least developed countries by improving food security, providing employment and income and improving the livelihoods of the poorest, particularly women.

85. The agriculture-for-development agenda calls for full trade liberalization which could significantly increase agricultural commodity prices and increase welfare gains for the least developed countries. It is, therefore, absolutely crucial that the Doha Round of trade negotiations be concluded urgently, and that trade be allowed to work for poverty reduction and sustainable development in the least developed countries.

86. Greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture (land degradation and deforestation) contribute significantly to total emissions. Reduction of deforestation, control of wildfires, efficient management of livestock waste and adoption of conservation agriculture could reduce the environmental footprint, while sustainable land cultivation, livestock and forest management, and efficient irrigation and watershed management, along with the development of crop varieties resistant to pest and drought, could increase the resilience of agricultural production in the least developed countries to climate change. Carbon trading schemes which provide financing for avoided deforestation and soil carbon sequestration also offer the opportunity to reduce emissions from agriculture.

87. Finally, the global food crisis provides an opportunity to address the issue of high fertility, especially in the African least developed countries. Slower population growth will reduce the pressures faced by the least developed countries in regard to food security, land tenure, environmental degradation and water supply. It will strengthen the human capital critical for sustained growth and sustainable development. Improving the access of women to education, health care and family planning, and overcoming gender inequalities and the cultural and religious traditions that perpetuate them are also crucial for addressing high fertility rates and high population growth.

Annex

Least developed countries: statistical data

Annex table 1
Economic growth and fixed capital formation

Least developed country	Average annual growth of GDP in constant United States dollars (percentage)				Per capita GDP in constant United States dollars		Per capita GDP in current United States dollars	Gross fixed formation as a percentage of GDP	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, as a percentage of GDP			Total population (thousands)	Population growth, per year (percentage)
	1990-1995	1995-2000	2000-2005	2006	1990	2006	2006	2006	1990	2005	2006	2006	2005-2010
Africa													
Oil exporters													
Angola	-3.37	6.13	10.35	14.30	977	1 319	2 855	13	-3.3	-4.3	-0.1	16 557	2.78
Chad	4.29	2.69	14.95	2.90	252	428	634	23	0.5	12.0	10.7	10 468	2.88
Equatorial Guinea	8.83	33.88	26.63	-1.00	391	5 671	19 166	33	8.4	24.7	19.3	496	2.38
Sudan	5.11	7.57	6.80	12.10	615	1 218	934	24	-0.3	8.3	9.4	37 707	2.22
Subtotal (oil exporters)	**2.27**	**7.19**	**8.76**	**11.54**	**651**	**1 151**	**1 512**	**20**	**-1.63**	**4.96**	**5.99**	**65 228**	
Non-oil exporters													
Benin	4.21	4.84	4.10	3.60	356	415	536	20	3.4	1.2	1.3	8 760	3.02
Burkina Faso	4.71	4.66	6.21	5.90	352	491	416	24	0.0	0.3	0.4	14 359	2.89
Burundi	-2.11	-1.23	2.11	6.10	202	140	114	24	0.1	0.1	0.0	8 173	3.90
Cape Verde	5.21	8.36	5.25	5.50	868	1 557	2 153	39	0.1	1.7	10.7	519	2.23
Central African Republic	0.68	1.60	-0.95	3.20	431	335	333	6	0.0	0.4	1.6	4 265	1.83
Comoros	1.28	1.64	2.30	1.20	463	391	486	14	0.2	0.3	0.2	818	2.46
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	-7.25	-3.91	4.00	6.50	220	100	136	17	0.2	5.7	2.1	60 644	3.22
Djibouti	2.06	0.39	2.86	4.20	815	756	925	19	..	3.2	14.1	819	1.74
Eritrea	11.70	0.84	4.07	2.00	239	363	249	18	..	1.2	0.3	4 692	3.24
Ethiopia	1.09	4.68	5.60	10.60	213	259	164	20	0.1	1.9	2.7	81 021	2.51
Gambia	2.68	4.52	3.79	5.60	346	363	307	24	4.5	11.3	16.1	1 663	2.63
Guinea	3.90	4.24	3.08	5.00	467	559	311	19	0.7	3.1	3.3	9 181	2.16
Guinea-Bissau	2.76	-0.15	-0.23	4.60	229	166	196	16	0.8	3.3	13.8	1 646	2.98
Lesotho	4.00	2.89	3.02	1.60	386	512	725	41	2.8	6.4	5.2	1 995	0.63
Liberia	-22.55	35.07	-4.60	7.00	180	114	192	12	58.6	36.7	-13.0	3 579	4.50
Madagascar	-0.33	3.83	2.27	4.70	256	224	287	22	0.7	0.6	4.2	19 159	2.66
Malawi	7.72	3.86	2.42	8.50	185	277	164	8	1.2	0.1	0.9	13 571	2.57
Mali	3.68	4.47	6.39	4.60	327	446	498	18	0.2	3.0	3.2	11 968	3.02
Mauritania	3.45	2.54	4.03	14.10	540	644	899	29	0.7	6.3	-0.1	3 044	2.53
Mozambique	2.61	7.92	8.55	8.50	200	352	349	23	0.4	1.6	2.2	20 971	1.95

Annex table 1

Economic growth and fixed capital formation

Least developed country	Average annual growth of GDP in constant United States dollars (percentage) 1990-1995	1995-2000	2000-2005	2006	Per capita GDP in constant United States dollars 1990	2006	Per capita GDP in current United States dollars 2006	Gross fixed formation as a percentage of GDP 2006	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, as a percentage of GDP 1990	2005	2006	Total population (thousands) 2006	Population growth, per year (percentage) 2005-2010
Niger	0.74	3.75	4.57	3.50	320	295	247	19	1.6	1.3	0.6	13 737	3.49
Rwanda	-8.50	10.17	5.27	3.00	348	372	242	21	0.3	0.4	0.5	9 464	2.76
São Tomé and Principe	1.34	2.16	3.76	5.50	500	568	480	68	..	6.2	-0.4	155	1.61
Senegal	1.41	5.22	4.57	4.00	771	906	768	26	1.0	0.6	0.6	12 072	2.46
Sierra Leone	1.47	-10.23	12.77	9.70	230	206	318	5	5.0	6.9	4.1	5 743	2.04
Somalia	-7.20	2.10	2.86	2.40	148	106	283	20	0.6	..	..	8 445	2.92
Togo	-0.72	2.32	1.99	4.20	436	335	356	20	1.1	3.7	2.6	6 410	2.65
Uganda	7.46	6.45	5.91	6.20	205	339	346	24	-0.1	4.3	4.2	29 899	3.24
United Republic of Tanzania	4.00	4.08	6.85	5.90	179	254	335	22	0.0	3.6	3.7	39 459	2.47
Zambia	-1.33	2.72	4.76	6.00	461	458	938	25	6.2	3.6	5.4	11 696	1.91
Subtotal (non-oil exporters)	**1.07**	**3.89**	**4.96**	**6.39**	**270**	**300**	**302**	**22**	**1.1**	**2.8**	**2.9**	**407 927**	
Subtotal (Africa)	**1.41**	**4.91**	**6.27**	**8.29**	**323**	**417**	**469**	**21**	**0.5**	**3.7**	**4.3**	**473 155**	
Asia													
Afghanistan	-3.54	-3.44	12.60	11.10	286	196	319	17	..	..	..	26 088	3.85
Bangladesh	4.49	5.34	5.60	6.50	282	461	437	26	0.0	1.3	1.1	155 991	1.67
Bhutan	3.79	6.76	7.60	8.50	510	1 124	1 422	53	0.5	0.1	0.6	649	1.43
Cambodia	6.45	7.19	9.14	7.20	175	384	453	18	..	6.0	6.7	14 197	1.74
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	6.40	6.17	6.33	7.30	212	403	599	31	0.7	1.0	5.5	5 759	1.72
Maldives	6.75	8.35	5.04	21.70	995	2 310	3 020	56	2.6	1.3	1.5	300	1.76
Myanmar	5.84	8.48	12.80	7.00	129	417	281	15	..	..	..	48 379	0.85
Nepal	5.19	4.82	2.95	1.90	184	245	290	18	0.2	0.0	-0.1	27 641	1.97
Timor-Leste	4.49	-3.77	0.96	-1.60	242	171	319	17	..	..	..	1 114	3.50
Yemen	5.93	7.04	3.99	3.90	312	419	853	22	-2.7	-1.8	5.9	21 732	2.97
Subtotal	**4.41**	**5.53**	**6.70**	**6.42**	**241**	**406**	**427**	**23**	**0.1**	**1.1**	**2.5**	**301 849**	
Pacific													
Kiribati	4.56	5.62	2.87	0.80	389	574	801	43	..	..	..	94	..
Samoa	1.05	3.63	4.05	4.00	696	962	2348	10	5.9	-0.9	4.9	185	0.87
Solomon Islands	5.12	-2.60	1.49	5.00	662	545	860	19	4.9	6.2	5.5	484	2.33
Tuvalu	1.92	1.76	5.92	1.00	1 111	1 600	2441	56	..	..	..	10	..
Vanuatu	4.54	3.15	0.36	3.40	1 027	1 059	1635	21	8.7	3.6	11.2	221	2.38
Subtotal	**4.01**	**1.07**	**1.88**	**3.61**	**725**	**751**	**1 321**	**19**	**6.0**	**2.5**	**6.8**	**994**	

Annex table 1

Economic growth and fixed capital formation

Least developed country	Average annual growth of GDP in constant United States dollars (percentage)				Per capita GDP in constant United States dollars		Per capita GDP in current United States dollars	Gross fixed formation as a percentage of GDP	Foreign direct investment, net inflows, as a percentage of GDP			Total population (thousands)	Population growth, per year (percentage)
	1990-1995	1995-2000	2000-2005	2006	1990	2006	2006	2006	1990	2005	2006	2006	2005-2010
Latin America and the Caribbean													
Haiti	-4.05	2.10	-0.55	2.30	368	249	489	29	0.3	0.6	3.2	9 446	1.58
Total	**2.38**	**5.09**	**6.36**	**7.52**	**291**	**411**	**454**	**22**	**0.4**	**1.4**	**3.7**	**785 444**	**2.37**

Sources: United Nations Statistics Division, *National Accounts Main Aggregates Database*, at http://unstats.un.org/unsd/snaama/introduction.asp (accessed 10 February 2008); World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2008* (Washington, D.C.), table 6.10, and *WDI and GDF Online*, at http://www.worldbank.org (accessed on 23 April 2008); United Nations Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2006 Revision. Data online*, at http://www.un.org/esa/population (accessed 15 March 2008).

Annex table 2
Poverty and hunger

Least developed country	Population poverty rate (percentage) PPP (dollar) 1997-2004	Population poverty rate (percentage) National estimate 1998-2004	Population under-nourished (percentage) 2002-2004	Percentage difference, proportion of population under-nourished 1990-2004	Total population (thousands) 2006	Population growth per year (percentage) 2006	Refugees/ displaced population (thousands) 2006	Life expectancy (years) 2005-2010	Change in life expectancy (years) 1995-2010
Africa									
Angola	..	..	35	-23	16 557	2.87	61.70	42.7	1.7
Benin	31.0	29.0	12	-8	8 760	3.18	12.15	56.7	1.9
Burkina Faso	27.0	46.4	15	-6	14 359	3.05	1.27	52.3	2
Burundi	55.0	68.0	66	18	8 173	4.00	82.31	49.6	4.3
Cape Verde	..	..	..	..	519	2.41	..	71.7	3.1
Central African Republic	..	..	44	-6	4 265	1.76	161.32	44.7	-1.4
Chad	..	..	35	-23	10 468	3.18	399.46	50.7	-0.9
Comoros	..	..	..	..	818	2.52	0.00	65.2	4.5
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	..	..	74	42	60 644	3.24	1 814.99	46.5	3.9
Djibouti	..	..	24	-29	819	1.84	9.28	54.8	1.6
Equatorial Guinea	..	..	..	..	496	2.46	..	51.6	3.4
Eritrea	..	..	75	..	4 692	3.65	6.66	58.0	4.6
Ethiopia	23.0	44.2	46	..	81 021	2.58	97.33	52.9	3.5
Gambia	59.0	61.3	29	7	1 663	2.84	14.36	59.4	3.5
Guinea	..	..	24	-15	9 181	1.98	35.36	56.0	4.5
Guinea-Bissau	..	65.7	39	15	1 646	3.07	8.12	46.4	1.5
Lesotho	..	68.0	13	-4	1 995	0.72	..	42.6	-13
Liberia	..	..	50	15	3 579	3.99	362.02	45.7	3.5
Madagascar	61.0	71.3	38	3	19 159	2.77	..	59.4	4.4
Malawi	42.0	65.3	35	-15	13 571	2.61	9.19	48.3	0.8
Mali	..	63.8	29	0	11 968	3.07	12.47	54.5	4.6
Mauritania	26.0	46.3	10	-5	3 044	2.73	30.36	64.2	3.8
Mozambique	..	54.1	44	-22	20 971	2.13	6.87	42.1	-4.2
Niger	..	..	32	-9	13 737	3.56	0.34	56.9	5.6
Rwanda	52.0	60.3	33	-11	9 464	2.49	59.11	46.2	10.1
São Tomé and Principe	..	..	10	-8	155	1.56	..	65.5	2.2
Senegal	..	..	20	-3	12 072	2.56	23.23	63.1	2.9
Sierra Leone	..	70.2	51	4	5 743	2.80	27.73	42.6	2.7
Somalia	..	..	..	..	8 445	3.03	403.74	48.2	4.4
Sudan	..	..	26	-6	37 707	2.19	1 622.22	58.6	3.2
Togo	..	..	24	-9	6 410	2.75	17.69	58.4	0
Uganda	85.0	37.7	19	-5	29 899	3.29	2 169.03	51.5	6.9
United Republic of Tanzania	58.0	35.7	44	7	39 459	2.55	485.68	52.5	4
Zambia	76.0	68.0	46	-2	11 696	1.90	120.47	42.4	2.2
Asia									
Afghanistan	..	..	..	..	26 088	4.07	527.71	43.8	2
Bangladesh	36.0	49.8	30	-5	155 991	1.77	326.39	64.1	4.7
Bhutan	..	..	..	..	649	1.85	..	65.6	6.7
Cambodia	55.0	35.0	33	-10	14 197	1.73	0.30	59.7	3.2
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	27.0	33.0	19	-10	5 759	1.68	..	64.4	4.9
Maldives	..	..	10	-7	300	1.59	..	68.5	5.1
Myanmar	..	..	5	-5	48 379	0.86	728.00	62.1	1.8

Annex table 2
Poverty and hunger

Least developed country	Population poverty rate (percentage) PPP (dollar) 1997-2004	Population poverty rate (percentage) National estimate 1998-2004	Population under-nourished (percentage) 2002-2004	Percentage difference, proportion of population under-nourished 1990-2004	Total population (thousands) 2006	Population growth per year (percentage) 2006	Refugees/ displaced population (thousands) 2006	Life expectancy (years) 2005-2010	Change in life expectancy (years) 1995-2010
Nepal	..	30.9	17	-3	27 641	2.02	3 640.04	63.8	4.4
Timor-Leste	..	..	9	-2	1 114	4.38	166.96	60.8	6.4
Yemen	16 0	41.8	38	4	21 732	3.02	96.66	62.7	4.7
Pacific									
Kiribati	..	..	7	-2	94	2.17	..	..	..
Samoa	..	..	4	-7	185	0.63	..	71.5	3.1
Solomon Islands	..	..	21	-12	484	2.45	..	63.6	2.9
Tuvalu	..	..	..	..	10	-4.22	..	..	..
Vanuatu	..	..	11	..	221	2.62	..	70.0	3.5
Latin America and the Caribbean									
Haiti	54.0	..	46	-19	9 446	1.61	0.00	60.9	4.2

Sources: World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2007* (Washington, D.C.), table 2.6, and PovcalNet, at http://iresearch.worldbank.org/PovcalNet/jsp/index.jsp (accessed on 1 March 2008); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2006*, with 2006 updates from *FAOSTAT Database, Food Security Statistics*, at http://www.fao.org/faostat/foodsecurity/index_en (accessed on 1 March 2007); United Nations Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2006 Revision, Data online*, at http://www.un.org/esa/population (accessed on 15 March 2008).

Annex table 3
Reproductive health and health services

Least developed country	Skilled health personnel at birth (percentage) 2000-2006	Women with antenatal visit to skilled practitioner (percentage) 2000-2006	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000) 2000-2006 reported	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000) 2005 adjusted	Contraceptive use, currently married women aged 15-49, any method (percentage) 1990-1995	Contraceptive use, currently married women aged 15-49, any method (percentage) 2000-2006
Africa						
Angola	45	66	..	1 400	8	6
Benin	78	88	500	840	16	17
Burkina Faso	54	85	480	700	8	17
Burundi	34	92	620	1 100	..	9
Cape Verde	89	99	76	210	..	53
Central African Republic	53	69	540	980	15	19
Chad	14	39	1 100	1 500	..	3
Comoros	62	75	380	400	21	26
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	61	68	1 300	1 100	8	31
Djibouti	61	67	74	650	..	9
Equatorial Guinea	65	86	..	680	..	..
Eritrea	28	70	1 000	450	5	8
Ethiopia	6	28	670	720	4	15
Gambia	57	98	730	690	12	18
Guinea	38	82	980	910	2	9
Guinea-Bissau	39	78	410	1 100	..	10
Lesotho	55	90	760	960	23	37
Liberia	51	85	580	1 200	..	10
Madagascar	51	80	470	510	17	27
Malawi	54	92	980	1 100	13	42
Mali	41	57	580	970	..	8
Mauritania	57	64	750	820	3	8
Mozambique	48	85	410	520	..	17
Niger	33	46	650	1 800	4	11
Rwanda	39	94	750	1 300	21	17
São Tomé and Príncipe	81	97	150	..	..	30
Senegal	52	87	430	980	7	12
Sierra Leone	43	81	1 800	2 100	..	5
Somalia	33	26	1 000	1 400	..	15
Sudan	87	60	550	450	10	7
Togo	62	84	480	510	..	17
Uganda	42	94	510	550	..	24
United Republic of Tanzania	43	78	580	950	10	26
Zambia	43	93	730	830	15	34
Asia						
Afghanistan	14	16	1 600	1 800	..	10
Bangladesh	20	48	320	570	40	58
Bhutan	56	51	260	440	19	31
Cambodia	44	69	470	540	13	40
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	19	27	410	660	19	32
Maldives	84	81	140	120	..	39
Myanmar	57	76	320	380	17	34
Nepal	19	44	280	830	23	48

Annex table 3

Reproductive health and health services

Least developed country	Skilled health personnel at birth (percentage) 2000-2006	Women with antenatal visit to skilled practitioner (percentage) 2000-2006	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000) 2000-2006 reported	Maternal mortality ratio (per 100,000) 2005 adjusted	Contraceptive use, currently married women aged 15-49, any method (percentage) 1990-1995	Contraceptive use, currently married women aged 15-49, any method (percentage) 2000-2006
Timor-Leste	18	61	..	380	..	10
Yemen	27	41	370	430	7	23
Pacific						
Kiribati	85	88	56	..	..	21
Samoa	100	..	29	..	..	43
Solomon Islands	85	..	140	220	..	7
Tuvalu	100	..	..	..	..	32
Vanuatu	88	..	68	..	.	28
Latin America and the Caribbean						
Haiti	26	85	630	670	..	32
Least Developed Countries	38	59		870		30

Source: United Nations Children's Fund, *The State of the World's Children 2008: Child Survival* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XX.1), table 8.

Annex table 4

Universal primary education and gender equality in education

A. Enrolment

Least developed country	Net enrolment ratio in primary education			Ratio of girls to boys enrolled in primary education			Ratio of girls to boys enrolled in secondary education			Ratio of girls to boys enrolled in tertiary education		
	1991	1999/00	2004/05	1991	1999/00	2004/05	1991	1999/00	2004/05	1991	1999/00	2004/05
Africa												
Angola	50	..	..	0.92	0.86	..	..	0.82	..	..	0.63	..
Benin	41	52	78	0.51	0.69	0.80	0.42	0.46	0.57	0.15	0.25	..
Burkina Faso	29	36	45	0.64	0.71	0.80	0.53	0.65	0.70	0.30	0.30	0.45
Burundi	53	43	60	0.84	0.80	0.86	0.58	..	0.74	0.36	0.35	0.38
Cape Verde	91	98	90	0.94	0.97	0.95	..	..	1.07	..	1.00	1.04
Central African Republic	52	..	..	0.64	..	0.66	0.40	..	..	0.15	0.19	..
Chad	35	54	..	0.45	0.61	0.67	0.20	0.28	0.33	..	0.17	0.14
Comoros	57	55	..	0.73	0.85	0.88	0.65	0.82	0.76	..	0.73	0.77
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	54	..	..	0.75	0.90	..	..	0.52	..	..	..	..
Djibouti	29	28	33	0.72	0.73	0.82	0.66	0.66	0.66	..	0.89	0.73
Equatorial Guinea	91	84	..	0.96	0.95	0.95	..	0.60	..	0.14	0.43	..
Eritrea	16	41	47	0.94	0.82	0.81	..	0.69	0.59	..	0.16	0.15
Ethiopia	22	36	61	0.66	0.67	0.86	0.75	0.61	0.65	0.22	0.28	0.32
Gambia	48	67	..	0.68	0.85	1.06	0.49	0.68	0.82	..	0.29	0.23
Guinea	27	47	66	0.49	0.70	0.84	0.34	0.39	0.53	0.07	..	0.24
Guinea-Bissau	38	45	..	0.55	0.67	..	..	0.54	..	..	0.18	..
Lesotho	71	82	87	1.22	1.04	1.00	1.42	1.31	1.26	1.30	1.52	1.27
Liberia	..	66	..		0.73	..	..	0.72	..	..	0.76	..
Madagascar	64	65	92	0.98	0.96	0.96	0.97	0.96	..	0.82	0.86	0.89
Malawi	48	..	95	0.84	0.96	1.02	0.46	0.74	0.81	0.34	0.38	0.54
Mali	21	..	51	0.60	0.75	0.80	0.52	0.56	0.62	0.16	0.48	0.47
Mauritania	35	63	72	0.73	0.94	1.01	0.46	0.72	0.85	0.16	..	0.33
Mozambique	43	56	79	0.75	0.76	0.85	0.57	0.63	0.69	..	..	0.49
Niger	22	25	40	0.60	0.69	0.73	0.44	0.67	0.68	..	..	0.45
Rwanda	66	..	74	0.97	0.97	1.02	0.75	0.94	0.89	..	0.48	0.62
São Tomé and Príncipe	..	..	97	..	0.98	0.98	..	..	1.08	..	..	..
Senegal	43	54	69	0.73	0.87	0.97	0.53	0.65	0.75	..	..	..
Sierra Leone	43	..	..	0.70	..	0.81	0.57	..	0.74	..	..	..
Somalia	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sudan	40	43	..	0.77	0.85	0.87	0.79	..	0.94	0.88	0.92	..
Togo	64	77	78	0.65	0.78	0.85	0.34	0.44	0.51	0.16	0.20	..
Uganda	..	..	..	0.85	0.94	1.00	0.59	0.77	0.81	0.38	0.51	..
United Republic of Tanzania	49	51	91	0.98	0.99	0.96	0.77	0.82	..	0.19	0.27	0.48
Zambia	..	63	89	..	0.93	0.95	..	0.81	0.82	..	0.46	..
Asia												
Afghanistan	..	..	..	0.55	0.08	0.59	0.51	..	0.33	..	..	0.28
Bangladesh	..	89	94	..	1.00	1.03	..	1.04	1.03	..	0.51	0.53
Bhutan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cambodia	69	91	99	0.81	0.87	0.92	0.43	0.54	0.69	..	0.33	0.46
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	63	82	84	0.79	0.85	0.88	0.62	0.70	0.76	..	0.53	0.72
Maldives	..	96	79	..	1.00	0.98	..	1.08	1.14	..	..	2.37

Myanmar	98	82	90	0.96	0.99	1.02	0.98	1.07	0.99	..	1.60	..
Nepal	..	70	..	0.63	0.79	0.91	0.46	0.71	0.86	0.33	0.40	0.40
Timor-Leste	..	..	98	..	..	0.92	..	..	1.00	..	..	..
Yemen	51	60	75	0.35	0.63	0.74	..	0.42	0.49	..	0.28	0.37
Pacific												
Kiribati	..	97	..	..	0.99	1.02	..	1.61	1.13	..	..	..
Samoa	..	90	90	1.02	1.00	1.00	1.96	1.14	1.12	..	0.93	..
Solomon Islands	..	..	..	0.86	0.92	0.95	0.61	0.78	0.83	..	..	..
Tuvalu	..	..	..	..	1.04	1.07	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vanuatu	..	93	94	0.96	0.98	0.97	0.80	1.15	0.86	..	..	0.58
Latin America and the Caribbean												
Haiti	22	..	..	0.94	..	..	0.96	..	..	..	..	..
Total	52	60	73	0.79	0.87	0.89	..	0.81	0.81	..	0.66	0.63

Sources: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), *EFA Global Monitoring Report 2008, Education for All by 2015: Will we make it?* (Paris, 2007), tables 5, 8, 9A and 12, and updated data provided on 20 April 2008 by UNESCO Institute for Statistics (Montreal, Canada).

Annex table 4
Universal primary education and gender equality in education

B. Adult literacy

Least developed country	Rate of literacy in adults (over 15 years of age) Percentage literate 1990 Women	1990 Men	1990 Total	2007 Women	2007 Men	2007 Total	Change in gender difference (in percentage points), 1990-2007	Change in adult literacy (in percentage points), 1990-2007
Africa								
Angola	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Benin	16.6	39.9	27.2	27.9	53.1	40.5	-12.6	13.3
Burkina Faso	8.2	19.6	13.6	21.6	36.7	28.7	-8.0	15.2
Burundi	27.5	48.2	37.4	..	..	..	..	..
Cape Verde	53.0	74.8	62.8	78.8	89.4	83.8	-5.6	21.0
Central African Republic	20.3	48.0	33.6	..	..	..	..	..
Chad	..	..	12.2	..	..	..	..	..
Comoros	72.2	82.3	77.3	69.8	80.3	75.1	-5.3	-2.2
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Djibouti	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Equatorial Guinea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Eritrea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ethiopia	18.5	36.0	27.0	..	..	..	..	..
Gambia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Guinea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Guinea-Bissau	28.5	56.2	42.0	54.4	75.1	64.6	-10.6	22.5
Lesotho	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Liberia	29.7	52.1	40.8	50.9	60.2	55.5	-4.7	14.7
Madagascar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malawi	33.5	65.3	48.5	64.6	79.2	71.8	-7.4	23.3
Mali	..	..	..	16.0	31.4	23.3	-8.1	..
Mauritania	..	..	..	48.3	63.3	55.8	-7.5	..
Mozambique	..	..	..	33.0	57.2	44.4	-12.8	..
Niger	..	..	..	16.4	44.3	30.4	-13.9	..
Rwanda	..	..	57.9	..	..	..	..	..
São Tomé and Principe	61.9	85.2	73.2	82.7	93.4	87.9	-5.5	14.7
Senegal	17.9	36.9	26.9	32.3	53.1	42.6	-10.6	15.7
Sierra Leone	..	..	..	26.8	50.0	38.1	-11.9	..
Somalia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sudan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Togo	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uganda	44.8	68.2	56.1	65.5	81.8	73.6	-8.2	17.5
United Republic of Tanzania	48.1	71.4	59.1	65.9	79.0	72.3	-6.6	13.2
Zambia	57.4	73.0	65.0	..	..	..	..	..
Asia								
Afghanistan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bangladesh	25.8	44.3	35.3	48.0	58.7	53.5	-5.2	18.2
Bhutan	..	..	..	42.2	67.1	55.6	-11.5	..
Cambodia	..	..	..	67.7	85.8	76.3	-9.5	..
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	..	..	..	66.6	80.0	73.2	-6.8	..
Maldives	96.1	95.9	96.0	97.1	97.0	97.0	0.1	1.0
Myanmar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nepal	17.4	49.2	33.0	43.6	70.3	56.5	-13.8	23.5
Timor-Leste	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yemen	17.1	56.7	37.1	40.5	77.0	58.9	-18.2	21.8
Pacific								
Kiribati	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Samoa	97.4	98.4	97.9	98.4	98.9	98.7	-0.2	0.8
Solomon Islands	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuvalu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Annex table 4 (cont.)
Universal primary education and gender equality in education

Vanuatu	62.5	68.4	65.5	76.1	80.0	78.1	-1.9	12.6
Latin America and the Caribbean								
Haiti	45.9	46.6	46.2	64.0	60.1	62.1	2.0	15.9

Sources: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), *EFA Global Monitoring Report 2008, Education for All by 2015: Will we make it?* (Paris, 2007), tables 5, 8, 9A and 12, and updated data provided on 20 April 2008 by UNESCO Institute for Statistics (Montreal, Canada).

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Annex table 5

Infant and child health

Least developed country	Under-five mortality rate (per 1,000)			Infant mortality rate (per 1,000)			Percentage of one-year-old children immunized				Percentage of children under 6 months exclusively breastfed	Prevalence of moderately/severely underweight children under 5 years of age
							Measles		DPT3			
	1990	2004	2006	1990	2004	2006	2004	2006	2004	2006	2000-2006	2000-2006
Africa												
Angola	260	260	260	154	154	154	84	48	59	44	11	31
Benin	185	152	148	111	90	88	64	89	83	93	70	23
Burkina Faso	206	192	204	123	97	122	78	88	88	95	7	37
Burundi	190	190	181	114	114	109	84	75	74	74	45	39
Cape Verde	60	36	34	45	27	25	72	65	75	72	57	...
Central African Republic	173	193	175	114	115	115	91	35	40	40	23	29
Chad	201	200	209	120	117	124	80	23	50	20	2	37
Comoros	120	70	68	88	52	51	57	66	76	69	21	25
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	205	205	205	129	129	129	84	73	64	77	24	31
Djibouti	175	126	130	116	101	86	64	67	64	72	1	29
Equatorial Guinea	170	204	206	103	122	124	98	51	33	33	24	19
Eritrea	147	82	74	88	52	48	55	95	83	97	52	40
Ethiopia	204	166	123	122	110	77	60	63	80	72	49	38
Gambia	153	122	113	103	89	84	69	95	38	95	41	20
Guinea	235	155	161	139	101	98	36	67	69	71	27	26
Guinea-Bissau	240	203	200	142	126	119	59	60	80	77	16	19
Lesotho	101	82	132	81	61	102	61	85	78	83	36	20
Liberia	235	235	235	157	157	157	85	94	31	88	35	26
Madagascar	168	123	115	103	76	72	59	59	61	61	67	42
Malawi	221	175	120	131	110	76	54	85	89	99	56	19
Mali	250	219	217	140	121	119	70	86	76	85	25	33
Mauritania	133	125	125	85	78	78	78	62	70	68	20	32
Mozambique	235	152	138	158	104	96	40	77	72	72	30	24
Niger	320	259	253	191	152	148	56	47	62	39	14	44
Rwanda	176	203	160	106	118	98	97	95	89	99	88	23
São Tomé and Príncipe	100	118	96	65	75	63	87	85	99	99	60	9
Senegal	149	137	116	72	78	60	77	80	87	89	34	17
Sierra Leone	290	283	270	169	165	159	75	67	61	64	8	30
Somalia	203	225	145	121	133	90	90	35	30	35	9	36
Sudan	120	91	89	74	63	61	71	73	55	78	16	41
Togo	149	140	108	88	78	69	77	83	71	87	28	26
Uganda	160	138	134	93	80	78	73	89	87	80	60	20
United Republic of Tanzania	161	126	118	102	78	74	64	93	95	90	41	22
Zambia	180	182	182	101	102	102	91	84	80	80	40	20
Asia												
Afghanistan	260	257	257	168	165	165	80	68	66	77	...	39
Bangladesh	149	77	69	100	56	52	48	81	85	88	37	48
Bhutan	166	80	70	107	67	63	35	90	89	95	...	19
Cambodia	116	141	82	85	97	65	94	78	85	80	60	36
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	163	83	75	120	65	59	42	48	45	57	23	40
Maldives	111	46	30	78	35	26	56	97	96	98	10	30

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Annex table 5

Infant and child health

Myanmar	130	106	104	91	76	74	73	78	82	82	15	32
Nepal	142	76	59	99	59	46	51	85	80	89	53	39
Timor-Leste	177	80	55	133	64	47	25	64	57	67	31	46
Yemen	139	111	100	98	82	75	70	80	78	85	12	46
Pacific												
Kiribati	88	65	64	65	49	47	73	61	62	86	80	13
Samoa	50	30	28	40	25	23	75	54	68	56	...	...
Solomon Islands	121	56	73	86	34	55	78	84	80	91	65	...
Tuvalu	54	51	38	42	36	31	80	84	98	97	...	...
Vanuatu	62	40	36	48	32	30	74	99	49	85	50	...
Latin America and the Caribbean												
Haiti	152	117	80	105	74	60	64	58	43	53	41	22
Least Developed Countries	180	155	142	113	98	90	75	74	76	77	46	35

Source: United Nations Children's Fund, *The State of the World's Children 2008: Child Survival* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XX.1), tables 1-3.

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Annex table 6

HIV/AIDS prevalence and prevention

Least developed country	HIV prevalence rate, adults aged 15-49	Rate of condom use at last high-risk sex				Condom use rate of contraceptive prevalence rate (percentage)	Percentage of population aged 15-24 years with comprehensive correct knowledge of HIV/AIDS, 2000-2006		AIDS orphans (one or both parents dead) (thousands)	Ratio of school attendance of orphans to that of non-orphans
		1998-2004		2000-2006						
	2005	Women	Men	Women	Men	1996/04	Women	Men	2005	2000-2006
Africa										
Angola	3.7	..	..	..	..	5	..	..	160	90
Benin	1.8 *	19	34	17	44	7	8	14	62	..
Burkina Faso	2.0	54	67	64	67	15	19	23	120	71
Burundi	3.3 *	..	..	25	..	1	30	..	120	86
Cape Verde	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..
Central African Republic	10.7 *	..	..	41	..	3	17	..	140	96
Chad	3.5 *	..	..	17	25	0	6	20	57	105
Comoros	<0.1	..	..	..	..	3	10	..	..	59
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	3.2	..	..	..	..	7	..	..	680	72
Djibouti	3.1	..	..	26	50	..	18	22	6	82
Equatorial Guinea	3.2 *	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	5	95
Eritrea	2.4	..	..	..	..	8	37	..	36	83
Ethiopia	0.9 - 3.5	17	30	28	50	4	21	33	..	60
Gambia	2.4	..	..	54	..	1	39	..	4	87
Guinea	1.5 *	17	32	26	37	10	17	23	28	73
Guinea-Bissau	3.8	..	..	39	..	1	18	..	11	97
Lesotho	23.2 *	..	..	53	53	6	26	18	97	95
Liberia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madagascar	0.5	5	12	5	12	2	19	16	13	76
Malawi	14.1 *	32	38	40	47	5	41	36	550	96
Mali	1.7 *	14	30	17	35	4	9	15	94	104
Mauritania	0.7	..	..	..	..	10	..	..	7	..
Mozambique	16.1	29	33	29	33	5	20	33	510	80
Niger	1.1 *	7	30	18	37	0	13	16	46	..
Rwanda	3.1 *	23	55	26	40	3	51	54	210	82
São Tomé and Principe	..	..	..	56	..	0	44	..	..	109
Senegal	0.9 *	..	..	36	52	7	19	24	25	83

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Annex table 6
HIV/AIDS prevalence and prevention

Sierra Leone	1.6	a	..	..	20	..	2	17	..	31	83
Somalia	0.9		..	..	..	..	..	4	..	23	87
Sudan	1.6		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	96
Togo	3.2		22	41	50	..	6	28	..	88	94
Uganda	6.7	a	44	62	53	55	8	30	35	1000	94
United Republic of Tanzania	6.5	a	42	47	34	46	11	45	40	1100	102
Zambia	17.0	a	33	42	26	38	11	41	46	710	103
Asia											
Afghanistan	<0.1		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bangladesh	<0.1		..	..	..	..	..	16	..	..	..
Bhutan	<0.1		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cambodia	1.6	a	..	..	..	84	..	50	45	..	80
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	0.1		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Maldives	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Myanmar	1.3		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nepal	0.5		..	..	..	78	..	28	44	..	..
Timor-Leste	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yemen	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pacific											
Kiribati	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Samoa	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Solomon Islands	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuvalu	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vanuatu	..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Latin America and the Caribbean											
Haiti	3.8	a	19	30	29	43	..	32	40	..	86

Sources: UNAIDS, *2006 Report on the global AIDS epidemic* (Geneva, 2006), *07 AIDS epidemic update* (Geneva, 2007), and "Assessment of the epidemiological situation" (by country), at http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/epidemiology/pubfacts/en/; and United Nations Children's Fund, *The State of the World's Children 2008: Child Survival* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XX.1), table 4.

[a] Estimate based on surveys completed in 2005. Estimates for other countries based on surveys in earlier years.

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Annex table 7

Malaria and tuberculosis prevalence, mortality, prevention and treatment

Percentage

Least developed country	Malaria					Tuberculosis									
	Reported malaria cases per 1,000 population		Reported deaths from malaria	Children under 5 years: Use of treated bed nets (percentage)	Children under 5 years: With fever receiving anti-malarial drugs (percentage)	Estimated prevalence of tuberculosis per 100,000 population			Estimated tuberculosis deaths per 100,000 population			DOTS[a]: Percentage of TB cases detected		DOTS[a]: Percentage of detected TB cases cured	
	1990	2000-2003	2000-2003	2003-2006	2003-2006	1990	2003	2006	1990	2003	2006	2003	2006	2002	2005
Africa															
Angola	26.1	106.9	11 344	..	..	514	304	344	58	27	29	101	76	74	72
Benin	20.0	122.0	670	20	54	140	141	135	15	20	18	81	86	80	87
Burkina Faso	55.7	114.9	4 417	10	48	337	349	476	50	53	71	16	17	64	71
Burundi	16.6	274.0	330	8	30	307	694	714	38	92	91	26	24	79	79
Cape Verde	0.2	0.3	..	..	..	413	397	324	46	44	36	..	33	..	64
Central African Republic	59.3	24.7	..	15	57	336	705	528	40	107	80	5	69	..	65
Chad	24.7	47.7	1 001	1	32	254	653	570	29	86	76	7	..	72	..
Comoros	..	5.1	16	9	63	186	106	86	15	8	7	28	42	96	91
Democratic Rep. of the Congo[b]	..	83.1	16 498	1	52	266	671	645	35	87	84	55	61	78	85
Djibouti	6.1	7.2	..	1	10	1484	1128	1300	122	124	139	46	40	82	80
Equatorial Guinea	72.3	31.3	..	1	49	176	564	404	19	77	54	..	..	..	..
Eritrea	..	17.4	78	4	4	231	191	218	20	19	22	53	35	82	88
Ethiopia[b]	..	8.0		2	3	307	646	641	37	85	83	31	27	76	78
Gambia	237.7	100.5	..	49	63	347	361	423	38	47	53	64	64	74	87
Guinea	3.6	109.5	441	0	44	254	416	466	29	49	56	51	55	72	72
Guinea-Bissau	80.5	134.6	780	39	46	403	341	313	39	42	40	52	64	48	69
Lesotho	..	..	..	..	..	254	527	513	30	92	88	73	79	52	73
Liberia	..	301.5	..	3	..	333	666	578	37	80	70	27	55	76	78
Madagascar	..	121.5	759	0	34	365	386	415	38	43	45	70	73	74	74
Malawi	409.3	240.4	6 993	23	24	321	347	322	75	119	111	39	42	72	73
Mali	27.5	62.2	1 309	..	..	715	589	578	80	71	69	22	26	50	75
Mauritania	13.3	59.6	100	2	33	576	691	606	63	80	71	..	34	..	55
Mozambique[b]	..	269.7	3 569	..	15	298	678	624	36	123	117	43	47	78	79
Niger	152.0	59.1	1 096	7	33	315	295	314	35	34	36	50	49	58	74
Rwanda	189.2	102.1	..	13	12	201	551	562	62	139	128	32	27	58	83
São Tomé and Principe	..	393.5	..	42	25	345	266	252	38	27	26	..	..	..	..

Annex table 7
Malaria and tuberculosis prevalence, mortality, prevention and treatment

Senegal	..	119.3	1 337	7	27	378	469	504	42	53	58	52	..	66	..
Sierra Leone	..	95.4	..	5	52	491	855	977	55	103	119	31	35	81	86
Somalia	..	2.4	10	9	8	795	348	293	114	57	41	63	83	89	89
Sudan	301.2	91.8	2 479	0	50	414	395	419	59	64	68	31	30	78	82
Togo	234.6	92.2	791	38	48	270	499	459	36	73	66	46	46	80	82
Uganda[a]	..	477.9	8 450	10	62	775	778	787	89	104	105	13	19	68	71
United Republic of Tanzania[b]	411.1	289.7	14 156	16	58	296	613	561	56	95	84	44	44	60	73
Zambia	235.8	..	5 763	23	58	636	659	568	100	121	102	63	53	83	84
Asia															
Afghanistan[b]	23.0	24.7	..	..	..	614	350	231	70	42	32	34	66	87	90
Bangladesh[b]	0.5	0.4	574	..	..	621	457	391	74	53	45	35	65	84	91
Bhutan	5.6	1.7	15	..	..	244	111	96	17	8	7	119	112	86	91
Cambodia[b]	12.7	5.0	492	4	0	915	702	665	119	101	92	62	62	92	93
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	5.3	3.3	187	18	9	476	324	292	38	26	24	48	77	75	90
Maldives	..	..	..	..	..	147	55	54	8	4	4	95	87	95	86
Myanmar[b]	24.4	14.5	2 476	..	..	411	186	169	50	24	13	76	109	81	85
Nepal	1.2	0.4	3	..	..	625	269	244	51	25	23	66	64	86	88
Timor-Leste	..	40.9	8	8	47	1206	822	789	125	101	98	43	33	81	82
Yemen	1.0	13.2	29	..	..	239	147	132	16	11	10	45	43	80	80
Pacific															
Kiribati	..	..	..	..	..	1162	471	402	115	54	45	63	82	94	93
Samoa	..	..	..	..	..	44	28	25	5	3	3	69	80	84	91
Solomon Islands	..	189.9	71	..	..	661	247	194	65	27	23	44	42	90	85
Tuvalu	..	..	..	..	..	1150	653	504	106	62	55	..	29	..	100
Vanuatu	192.7	71.9	..	..	..	213	76	65	21	9	8	68	73	79	81
Latin America and the Caribbean															
Haiti	0.7	1.2	16	..	5	785	458	402	107	66	58	41	55	78	81
Least Developed Countries				32	33										

Sources: United Nations Children's Fund and World Health Organization, *World Malaria Report 2005* (Geneva, 2005), http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/epidemiology/pubfacts/en/; United Nations Children's Fund, *The State of the World's Children 2008: Child Survival* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XX.1), table 3; and World Health Organization, *Global Tuberculosis Control 2008: Surveillance, Planning, Financing* (Geneva, 2008).

[a] Internationally recommended strategy for tuberculosis control.

[b] Tuberculosis "high burden countries", or designated by the World Health Organization.

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Annex table 8

Improved water and sanitation

Least developed country	Percentage of urban population				Annual growth rate (percentage)		Percentage of population with access to improved sanitation		Percentage of population with access to improved drinking water	
	1990	2000	2005	2007	Urban 2000-2005	Rural 2000-2005	Urban 2004	Rural 2004	Urban 2004	Rural 2004
Africa										
Angola	37.1	49	54	55.8	4.82	0.84	56	16	75	40
Benin	34.5	38.3	40	40.8	4.08	2.67	59	11	78	57
Burkina Faso	13.8	16.6	18.3	19.1	5.19	2.76	42	6	94	54
Burundi	6.3	8.3	9.5	10.1	6.10	3.01	47	35	92	77
Cape Verde	44.1	53.4	57.4	58.9	3.79	0.57	61	19	86	73
Central African Republic	36.8	37.6	38.1	38.4	1.86	1.49	37	12	93	43
Chad	20.8	23.4	25.3	26.1	5.17	3.12	24	4	41	82
Comoros	27.9	28.1	27.9	27.9	2.51	2.70	41	29	92	98
Democratic Rep. ofthe Congo	27.8	29.8	32.1	33.3	4.41	2.29	42	25	82	29
Djibouti	75.7	83.3	86.1	87	2.59	-1.66	88	50	76	59
Equatorial Guinea	34.7	38.8	38.9	39.2	2.41	2.30	60	46	45	42
Eritrea	15.8	17.8	19.4	20.2	5.88	3.72	32	3	74	57
Ethiopia	12.6	14.9	16.1	16.6	4.09	2.32	44	7	81	11
Gambia	38.3	49.1	53.9	55.7	4.97	1.13	72	46	95	77
Guinea	28	31	33	33.9	3.08	1.29	31	11	78	35
Guinea-Bissau	28.1	29.7	29.6	29.7	3.00	3.08	57	23	79	49
Lesotho	14	20	23.3	24.7	4.05	0.14	61	32	92	76
Liberia	45.3	54.3	58.1	59.5	3.65	0.52	49	7	72	52
Madagascar	23.8	27.1	28.5	29.1	3.82	2.44	48	26	77	35
Malawi	11.6	15.2	17.3	18.3	5.24	2.07	66	42	98	68
Mali	23.3	27.9	30.5	31.6	4.76	2.25	59	39	78	36
Mauritania	39.7	40	40.4	40.7	3.08	2.74	49	8	59	44
Mozambique	21.1	30.7	34.5	36.1	4.76	1.29	53	19	72	26
Niger	15.4	16.2	16.3	16.4	3.65	3.49	43	4	80	36
Rwanda	5.4	13.8	17.5	18	7.27	1.54	56	38	92	69
São Tomé and Principe	43.6	53.4	58.1	59.8	3.37	-0.39	32	20	89	73
Senegal	39	40.6	41.6	42	3.05	2.29	79	34	92	60
Sierra Leone	32.9	35.5	36.8	37.4	4.96	3.82	53	30	75	46
Somalia	29.7	33.2	35.2	36.1	4.13	2.41	48	14	32	27
Sudan	26.6	36.1	40.8	42.6	4.46	0.50	50	24	78	64
Togo	30.1	36.5	39.9	41.3	4.67	1.77	71	15	80	36
Uganda	11.1	12.1	12.5	12.8	3.94	3.08	51	41	87	56
United Republic of Tanzania	18.9	22.3	24.2	25	4.19	2.07	53	43	85	49
Zambia	39.4	34.8	35	35.2	1.99	1.81	59	52	90	40
Asia										
Afghanistan	18.3	21.3	22.9	23.6	5.26	3.38	49	29	63	31
Bangladesh	19.8	23.6	25.7	26.6	3.58	1.34	51	35	82	72
Bhutan	16.4	25.4	31	33.3	6.60	1.07	65	70	86	60
Cambodia	12.6	18.9	19.7	20.9	4.84	1.07	53	8	64	35
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	15.4	22	27.4	29.7	6.02	0.18	67	20	79	43
Maldives	25.8	27.7	33.9	36.6	5.62	-0.23	100	42	98	76

Annex table 8
Improved water and sanitation

Myanmar	24.9	28	30.6	31.9	2.68	0.15	58	72	80	77
Nepal	8.9	13.4	15.8	16.7	5.27	1.53	62	30	96	89
Timor-Leste	20.8	24.3	26.1	26.9	6.75	4.82	66	33	77	56
Yemen	20.9	26.3	28.9	30.1	4.91	2.24	86	28	71	65
Pacific										
Kiribati	35	43	43.6	43.7	2.09	1.60	59	22	77	53
Samoa	21.2	21.9	22.4	22.7	1.17	0.57	100	100	90	87
Solomon Islands	13.7	15.7	17	17.6	4.10	2.27	98	18	94	65
Tuvalu	40.7	46	48.1	49	1.38	-0.29	93	84	94	92
Vanuatu	18.7	21.7	23.5	24.3	4.09	2.08	78	42	86	52
Latin America and the Caribbean										
Haiti	28.5	35.6	42.7	45.6	5.28	-0.73	57	14	52	24

Sources: United Nations Children's Fund, *The State of the World's Children 2007, Women and Children: The Double Dividend of Gender Inequality* (New York) (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.07.XX.1); and United Nations Population Division, *World Urbanization Prospects: The 2007 Revision* (New York, 2008) and related database at http://esa.un.org/unup/index.asp.

Annex table 9
Communications

Least developed country	Permanent and mobile post offices per 100,000 population			Telephone lines and cellular subscribers per 100 population							Internet users per 100 population	
				Main lines			Cellular		Total			
	1990	2004	2006	1990	2000	2006	2003/04	2006	2003/04	2006	2004	2006
Africa												
Angola	1.3	0.4	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.6	6.7	14.3	7.4	15.0	1.2	0.6
Benin	3.7	2.2	2.0	0.3	0.8	0.9	3.4	12.1	4.4	13.0	1.5	8.0
Burkina Faso	1.0	0.6	..	0.2	0.5	0.7	3.0	7.5	3.6	8.2	0.4	0.6
Burundi	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.9	2.0	1.2	2.4	0.4	0.8
Cape Verde	17.5	..	6.9	2.4	12.6	13.8	13.9	21.0	29.5	34.8	5.3	6.4
Central African Republic	..	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.5	2.5	1.8	2.7	0.2	0.3
Chad	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.4	4.7	1.5	4.8	0.7	0.6
Comoros	..	..	2.9	0.8	1.0	2.1	0.3	2.0	1.9	4.1	1.0	2.6
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	1.0	0.2	..	0.1	0.0	0.0	1.9	7.4	1.9	7.5	..	0.3
Djibouti	..	1.4	..	1.1	1.5	1.6	3.4	6.4	5.1	7.9	1.3	1.4
Equatorial Guinea	..	4.2	..	0.4	1.4	2.0	11.0	19.3	12.7	21.3	1.0	1.6
Eritrea	..	1.5	1.4	..	0.8	0.8	0.5	1.4	1.4	2.2	1.2	2.2
Ethiopia	1.8	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.4	0.9	0.3	1.1	0.9	2.0	0.2	0.2
Gambia	..	1.2	0.6	0.7	2.7	3.0	12.0	26.0	14.6	29.0	3.4	5.3
Guinea	1.2	..	..	0.2	0.3	0.3	1.4	2.4	1.8	2.7	5.8	0.5
Guinea-Bissau	2.4	1.4	..	0.6	0.9	0.8	0.1	7.1	0.9	7.9	2.0	2.3
Lesotho	8.7	7.8	..	0.7	1.2	2.7	8.8	13.9	10.9	16.6	2.4	2.9
Liberia	..	..	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.4	4.9	1.6	5.1	..	...
Madagascar	11.8	4.2	3.9	0.3	0.3	0.7	1.9	5.5	2.2	6.2	0.5	0.6
Malawi	..	2.5	2.4	0.3	0.5	0.8	1.8	3.3	2.6	4.1	0.4	0.5
Mali	1.1	..	..	0.1	0.4	0.6	3.6	10.9	4.3	11.5	0.5	0.6
Mauritania	..	0.9	..	0.3	0.7	1.1	17.5	33.6	18.9	34.7	0.5	1.0
Mozambique	2.1	1.5	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.3	3.7	11.6	4.2	11.9	0.7	0.9
Niger	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	1.2	2.3	1.4	2.5	0.2	0.3
Rwanda	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.6	3.4	1.9	3.6	0.5	0.6
São Tomé and Príncipe	9.5	6.7	..	1.9	3.3	4.7	3.2	11.5	7.8	16.3	12.2	18.1
Senegal	1.8	1.2	..	0.6	2.2	2.4	9.9	25.0	12.2	27.4	4.7	5.5
Sierra Leone	..	..	0.8	0.3	0.4	0.5	2.3	2.2	2.7	2.7	0.2	0.2

Annex table 9

Communications

Somalia	..	..	..	0.2	0.4	1.2	4.2	6.1	5.8	7.3	1.7	1.1
Sudan	3.2	0.6	0.5	0.3	1.2	1.7	3.0	12.7	6.0	14.4	3.3	9.5
Togo	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.9	1.3	4.4	11.2	5.6	12.5	4.4	5.1
Uganda	1.6	1.2	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.4	4.4	6.7	4.6	7.1	0.8	2.5
United Republic of Tanzania	3.2	1.1	1.1	0.3	0.5	0.4	4.4	14.8	4.8	15.2	0.9	1.0
Zambia	5.3	1.7	..	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.8	14.0	3.5	14.8	2.1	4.2
Asia												
Afghanistan	..	1.7	1.8	0.2	0.1	0.5	2.4	8.1	2.6	8.6	0.1	1.7
Bangladesh	..	6.6	6.3	0.2	0.4	0.8	2.9	13.3	3.4	14.0	0.2	0.3
Bhutan	15.4	17.7	13.9	0.4	2.2	...	0.8	...	2.0	..	0.9	...
Cambodia	..	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.2	0.2	3.5	7.9	3.8	8.2	0.3	0.3
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	3.1	4.2	7.6	0.2	0.8	1.3	3.5	10.8	4.8	12.0	0.4	0.4
Maldives	13.4	74.2	71.7	2.9	9.1	10.9	34.5	87.9	44.1	96.8	5.8	6.6
Myanmar	2.8	2.8	2.8	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.2	0.4	1.0	1.4	0.1	0.2
Nepal	..	..	..	0.3	1.2	2.2	0.7	41.8	2.3	44.0	0.7	1.1
Timor-Leste	..	0.6	..	..	...	0.2	..	4.9	..	5.1	..	0.1
Yemen	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.9	4.5	5.2	13.8	9.0	18.2	0.9	1.3
Pacific												
Kiribati	33.3	..	..	1.7	4.0	5.1	0.6	0.7	4.6	5.8	2.4	2.2
Samoa	28.0	..	..	2.6	4.9	10.9	5.8	13.4	13.1	24.3	3.3	4.5
Solomon Islands	36.0	..	..	1.5	1.8	1.6	0.3	1.3	1.6	2.8	0.6	1.6
Tuvalu	..	..	..	1.3	7.0	8.5	0.0	12.4	7.0	20.9	..	16.2
Vanuatu	..	..	21.7	1.8	3.5	3.2	4.8	5.9	8.0	9.1	3.5	3.5
Latin America and the Caribbean												
Haiti	1.8	0.6	..	0.7	0.9	1.7	4.7	5.9	6.4	7.6	5.9	7.5
Least Developed Countries	1.6	2.3	0.9	2.1						10.8		1.1

Sources: Universal Postal Union, *Postal Statistics Database*, at http://www.upu.org (accessed on 1 March 2008); and International Telecommunication Union, Country data by region (online) and *World Telecommunication/ICT Indicators*, at http://www.itu.int/ITU-D/icteye/Indicators/Indicators.aspx (accessed on 21 April 2008).

Annex table 10
Transportation facilities

Least developed country	Roads				Railways				Air transport			
	Total road network (km)		Paved roads (percentage)		Route (km)		Freight (millions of tons per km)		Departures		Air freight (millions of tons per km)	
	2000	2004-2006	2000	2004-2006	2000	2004-2006	2000	2004-2006	2000	2004-2006	2000	2004-2006
Africa												
Angola	51 429	..	10.4	..	..	2 761	..	..	4 399	4 965	60.6	81.0
Benin	..	19 000	20.0	9.5	..	578	..	..	1 518	..	12.3	..
Burkina Faso	..	92 495	16.0	4.2	..	622	..	..	3 368	1 512	12.3	0.0
Burundi	14 480	12 322	7.1	10.4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cape Verde	1 350	..	69.0	..	..	..	..	..	13 010	19 862	0.6	1.8
Central African Republic	24 307	..	2.7	..	..	..	..	..	1 518	..	12.3	..
Chad	33 400	..	0.8	..	..	..	..	..	1 518	..	12.3	..
Comoros	880	..	76.5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	157 000	153 497	..	1.8	3 641	3 641	513	444	5 200	..	..	..
Djibouti	3 065	..	45.0	..	..	781	..	97	..	..	..	..
Equatorial Guinea	2 880	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Eritrea	4 010	..	21.8	..	..	306	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ethiopia	29 571	39 477	12.0	12.7	..	..	..	..	26 624	33 644	78.3	157.2
Gambia	2 700	3 742	35.4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Guinea	30 500	..	16.5	..	..	1 115	..	..	600	..	1.4	..
Guinea-Bissau	..	..	10.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Lesotho	5 940	..	18.3	..	..	..	..	..	200	..	..	..
Liberia	10 600	..	6.2	..	..	490	..	..	..	..	..	..
Madagascar	49 827	..	11.6	..	..	732	..	..	20 491	14 142	27.3	18.8
Malawi	..	..	..	..	710	710	87	38	4 806	5 528	0.8	1.6
Mali	15 100	18 709	12.1	18.0	734	..	279	..	1 518	..	12.3	..
Mauritania	7 660	..	11.3	..	..	717	..	..	3 761	1 725	12.5	0.1
Mozambique	30 400	..	18.7	..	..	3 070	..	768	6 698	10 490	7.2	5.2
Niger	14 658	18 423	7.9	20.6	..	..	..	..	1 518	..	12.3	..
Rwanda	12 000	14 008	8.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
São Tomé and Principe	320	..	66.1	..	..	..	..	..	1 135	1 337	0.1	0.1
Senegal	14 583	..	29.3	..	906	..	371	..	2 415	0	12.3	0.0
Sierra Leone	11 330	..	7.9	..	..	..	..	..	202	171	9.0	9.6

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Annex table 10
Transportation facilities

Somalia	22 100	..	11.8	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sudan	11 900	..	36.3	..	4 599	5 478	1 164	766	7 753	8 839	36.5	51.0
Togo	7 520	..	31.6	..	..	568	..	..	1 518	..	12.3	..
Uganda	..	..	..	..	261	259	210	218	263	330	20.7	34.0
United Republic of Tanzania	88 200	..	4.2	..	4 582	4 582	1 990	..	5 973	5 068	3.4	1.7
Zambia	66 781	..	..	..	1 273	1 273	554	..	6 118	6 013	0.5	0.0
Asia												
Afghanistan	21 000	34 782	13.3	23.7	..	..	..	..	3 409	..	7.8	..
Bangladesh	207 485	..	9.5	..	2 768	2 855	777	817	6 313	7 971	193.9	190.8
Bhutan	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 138	2 566	0.0	0.3
Cambodia	..	38 257	16.2	6.3	601	650	92	..	..	3 998	..	1.1
Lao People's Democratic Rep.	21 716	..	44.5	..	..	..	..	..	6 411	9 959	1.7	2.5
Maldives	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 970	5 108	13.2	0.0
Myanmar	27 966	..	11.4	..	..	..	..	..	10 329	28 700	0.8	2.8
Nepal	13 223	17 280	30.8	56.9	..	59	..	..	12 130	6 920	17.0	7.2
Timor-Leste	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Yemen	65 144	..	15.5	8.7	..	..	..	..	14 608	18 843	32.0	66.1
Pacific												
Kiribati	670	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Samoa	2 337	..	42.0	..	..	..	..	..	10 877	12 752	2.2	1.9
Solomon Islands	1 391	..	2.4	..	..	..	..	..	11 481	13 883	1.0	0.8
Tuvalu	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Vanuatu	1 070	..	23.9	..	..	..	..	..	1 402	1 643	1.8	1.9
Latin America and the Caribbean												
Haiti	4 160	..	24.3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Sources: World Bank, *World Development Indicators 2008* (Washington, D.C., 2008), table 5.9, and *WDI and GDF Online*, at http://www.worldbank.org (accessed on 23 April 2008), compiled by the World Bank from data of the International Road Federation, World Bank and International Civil Aviation Organization.

Annex table 11
Official development assistance, Development Assistance Committee donors

Country	ODA, net to the least developed countries (millions of United States dollars)				ODA, net to the least developed countries (as percentage of total)				ODA, net to the least developed countries, as a percentage of OECD/DAC donor gross national income				ODA for trade capacity building as percentage of total ODA		
	1990	2000	2005	2006	1990	2000	2005	2006	1990	2000	2005	2006	2001	2005	2006
Australia	171	293	419	451	17.9	29.7	24.9	21.3	0.06	0.08	0.06	0.06	2.1	1.1	2.3
Austria	106	113	245	252	63.0	25.6	15.5	16.8	0.07	0.06	0.08	0.08	..	3.4	2.2
Belgium	367	221	609	729	41.3	26.9	31.0	36.9	0.19	0.10	0.16	0.18	2.4	4.7	7.9
Canada	740	308	1 048	1 244	30.0	17.7	27.9	33.8	0.13	0.05	0.09	0.10	11.0	1.3	3.3
Denmark	462	537	814	878	39.5	32.3	38.6	39.3	0.37	0.34	0.31	0.31	0.7	..	6.1
Finland	317	112	245	296	37.5	30.2	27.2	35.5	0.24	0.09	0.13	0.14	1.1	3.2	8.4
France	2 286	1 144	2 392	2 624	31.9	27.9	23.9	24.8	0.19	0.08	0.11	0.12	1.2	2.8	3.9
Germany	1 769	1 212	1 884	2 642	28.0	24.1	18.7	25.3	0.12	0.07	0.07	0.09	2.7	2.1	0.6
Greece	..	19	79	103	..	8.2	20.7	24.2	..	0.02	0.04	0.04	..	0.0	2.7
Ireland	21	114	365	524	36.7	48.9	50.7	51.3	0.06	0.14	0.21	0.28	0.3	0.1	1.2
Italy	1 382	389	1 407	789	40.7	28.3	27.6	21.7	0.13	0.04	0.08	0.04	1.1	0.7	0.9
Japan	1 753	2 159	2 326	3 340	19.3	16.0	17.7	29.9	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.07	0.6	0.7	0.9
Luxembourg	10	46	106	123	39.3	37.6	41.2	42.5	0.08	0.27	0.35	0.38	..	..	..
Netherlands	834	794	1 658	1 395	32.9	25.3	32.4	25.6	0.30	0.21	0.27	0.21	2.9	3.4	4.6
New Zealand	18	29	70	74	19.1	25.9	25.5	28.6	0.04	0.07	0.07	0.08	10.8	10.2	12.5
Norway	532	427	1 029	1 129	44.1	33.8	36.9	38.2	0.52	0.26	0.35	0.34	4.1	3.3	2.9
Portugal	100	171	210	240	70.3	63.1	55.6	60.6	0.17	0.16	0.12	0.13	0.7	1.2	0.6
Spain	194	144	817	767	20.2	12.0	27.1	20.1	0.04	0.03	0.07	0.06	0.1	0.6	3.7
Sweden	775	532	1 101	1 152	38.6	29.6	32.7	29.1	0.35	0.24	0.31	0.30	1.0	2.6	1.6
Switzerland	325	270	405	453	43.4	30.3	22.9	27.5	0.14	0.10	0.10	0.11	6.2	11.1	10.3
United Kingdom	834	1 426	2 709	3 827	31.6	31.7	25.2	30.7	0.09	0.10	0.12	0.16	4.9	2.2	2.4
United States	2 199	1 989	4 661	6 416	19.3	20.0	16.7	27.3	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.05	7.3	4.5	4.2
Total	15 198	12 448	24 597	29 448	28.0	23.2	23.0	28.2	0.09	0.05	0.08	0.09	4.5	1.6	2.6

Sources: Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development/Development Assistance Committee, *OECD Journal on Development: Development Co-operation Report 2007* (Paris, 2008), table 25, and *Database on Aid Activities*, at http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/50/17/5037721.htm (accessed on 1 April 2008).

Annex table 12
World Bank/International Monetary Fund debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative, and public and publicly guaranteed debt service

Least developed country	Least developed countries in HIPC initiative and debt relief status with World Bank and International Monetary Fund, as at February 2008: Pre-completion point	Post-completion point	World Bank (millions of United States dollars, NPV)[a] Committed	Delivered	Percentage delivered	IMF (millions of United States dollars) Committed	Delivered	Percentage delivered	Debt service as percentage of exports by least developed countries of goods and services and income abroad 1990	2005	2006
Africa											
Angola									7.1	10.5	12.6
Benin		X	110.7	53.1	48.0	18.0	20.0	111.1	9.2	5.1	5.2
Burkina Faso		X	304.0	180.6	59.4	44.0	46.0	104.5	7.8	7.6	5.5
Burundi	X		444.5	29.5	6.6	19.0	0.0	0.0	41.7	28.4	10.8
Cape Verde									..	..	..
Central African Republic	X								12.5	..	..
Chad	X		85.4	41.1	48.1	14.0	9.0	64.3	3.8	0.9	1.8
Comoros									2.5	..	..
Democratic Rep. of the Congo	X		979.9	385.6	39.4	228.0	3.0	1.3	..	6.4	9.3
Djibouti									..	4.5	6.4
Equatorial Guinea									..	..	..
Eritrea									..	..	..
Ethiopia		X	1 022.7	213.3	20.9	45.0	47.0	104.4	37.6	2.1	3.7
Gambia		X	29.2	11.9	40.8	2.0	0.0	0.0	21.8	12.0	11.6
Guinea	X		198.7	79.4	40.0	24.0	5.0	20.8	19.6	13.4	11.3
Guinea-Bissau	X		122.3	34.8	28.5	9.0	1.0	11.1	22.1	4.4	7.8
Lesotho									4.2	7.4	4.0
Liberia									..	..	..
Madagascar		X	336.1	112.0	33.3	15.0	16.0	106.7	44.4	5.1	3.9
Malawi		X	739.3	129.9	17.6	33.0	37.0	112.1	28	8.9	8.3
Mali		X	241.6	139.6	57.8	46.0	49.0	106.5	14.7	7.1	4.3
Mauritania		X	131.0	48.5	37.0	35.0	38.0	108.6	28.8	6.3	5.6
Mozambique		X	564.5	553.4	98.0	107.0	108.0	100.9	17.3	3.1	0.8
Niger		X	306.8	78.8	25.7	31.0	34.0	109.7	6.6	4.3	2.3
Rwanda		X	475.0	101.9	21.5	47.0	51.0	108.5	9.9	7.4	3.5
São Tomé and Principe		X	40.0	8.2	20.5	1.0			28.7	48.1	19.0
Senegal		X	162.2	102.5	63.2	34.0	38.0	111.8	18.3	5.6	2.6
Sierra Leone		X	147.9	39.8	26.9	100.0	107.0	107.0	10.1	8.9	5.7

Annex table 12
World Bank/International Monetary Fund debt relief under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) Initiative, and public and publicly guaranteed debt service

Somalia									..	..	..
Sudan									4.8	7.7	4.9
Togo									11.5	1.8	..
Uganda		X	692.4	380.5	55.0	120.0	122.0	101.7	78.6	9.8	5.8
United Republic of Tanzania		X	911.1	333.8	36.6	89.0	96.0	107.9	31.3	5.4	2.0
Zambia		X	647.0	177.8	27.5	469.0	508.0	108.3	14.5	6.6	2.2
Asia											
Afghanistan	X		71.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	..	1.8	1.8
Bangladesh									34.8	7.2	4.8
Bhutan									..	..	..
Cambodia									..	0.7	0.6
Lao People's Democratic Rep.									8.5	..	..
Maldives									4	6.8	4.7
Myanmar									18.2	2.2	1.4
Nepal									14.7	8.2	9.7
Timor-Leste									..	..	..
Yemen									7.1	3.0	2.7
Pacific											
Kiribati									..	..	..
Samoa									10.6	4.7	5.5
Solomon Islands									11.3	4.8	2
Tuvalu									..	..	..
Vanuatu									1.6	0.9	1.5
Latin America and the Caribbean											
Haiti	X		52.8	1.1	2.1	2.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	17.5	8.5
Least Developed Countries	8	17	8 817.0	3 237.1	36.7	1 532.0	1 335.0	87.1			

Sources: World Bank, *World Development Indicators 08* (Washington, D.C., 2008), tables 1.4 and 8.9, and *WDI and GDF Online*, at http://www.worldbank.org (accessed on 23 April 2008).

[a] Net present value (NPV) at end-2006, as calculated by World Bank.